



**Section of General Internal Medicine
Department of Medicine
Baylor College of Medicine
*Annual Report 2018-2019***



MARGARET M. & ALBERT B. ALKEK
DEPARTMENT OF
MEDICINE
GENERAL
INTERNAL MEDICINE

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OVERVIEW

Statement from Section Chief:

The section of General Internal Medicine (SGIM) is the largest and perhaps most diverse in mission and faculty in the Department of Medicine (DOM). While we are primarily focused on the clinical and clinical education missions in the DOM, as generalists we provide a broad and multi-disciplinary tent that includes the vibrant Clinical Pharmacy group and the Environmental Health Service. Like most Sections of General Medicine around the country, we include inpatient generalists, hospitalists, and outpatient primary care physicians with a concentration on the continuum of care of the patient.

We practice at the Baylor Clinic, the Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center, Harris Health System (Ben Taub and Smith Clinic), and the MEDVAMC. We provide superb care and clinical teaching with patients ranging from the Baylor faculty and families to the most marginalized in our society.

As educators, the SGIM faculty have broad impact on our learners and occupy many key educational leadership roles. Our faculty members engage in a variety of scholarly endeavors and special clinical initiatives including innovative chronic disease management, quality improvement, medical education scholarship, care of the incarcerated, domestic violence, mind-body approaches to pain, narrative advocacy and environmental exposures and health. We hope you enjoy our report of academic year 2018-2019 and we hope to continue to grow and help serve the missions of DOM and BCM in the coming years.



David Hyman, MD, MPH, Professor of Medicine
Chief, Section of General Internal Medicine, Department of Medicine Baylor College of Medicine

Andrew Caruso, MD, Director Hospitalist Service, MEDVAMC

Jennifer Chen, MD, Co- Director, Hospitalist Service, Ben Taub General Hospital

Feibi Chi, PharmD, Director, Pharm D, MEDVAMC

Rola El-Serag, MD, Director, Women's Health Center, MEDVAMC

Joey Fisher, MD, MPH, Associate Chief, GIM at Harris Health System (HHS)

Himabindu Kadiyala, MD, Director, Prime Care Service, MEDVAMC

Surinder Kaul, MD, Co- Director, Hospitalist Service, Ben Taub General Hospital

Lee Lu, MD, Medical Director, Smith Clinic and Director of Ambulatory Services GIM at HHS

Daniel Murphy, MD, MBA, Medical Director, GIM, Baylor Clinic

Cory Ritter, MD, Associate Director, Hospitalist Service, MEDVAMC

Hossam Safar, MD, Director, EC-IM, MEDVAMC

Umar Waheed, MD, Medical Director, Hospitalist Service, BSLMC

HIGHLIGHTS

GIM has had another great year and has met many of its strategic goals for the section.

Clinical Care

Across our affiliates (Baylor Clinic – McNair, Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center, Harris Health System, Michael DeBakey VA Medical Center) combining inpatient and outpatient service, our general internal medicine faculty have cared for over **100,000 patient visits** in FY19. Recruitment has been a priority and we have hired **20 stellar recruits** across our pavilions- McNair Campus, Ben Taub, St Luke’s and the MEDVAMC which has helped us grow and expand our practices. Faculty continue to meet and exceed all **productivity targets**. Our faculty members provide **high value health care** with a particular focus on prevention and chronic disease management of complex patients. Faculty consistently meet major **quality and utilization metrics**.

Education

Our faculty are dedicated to the education mission of the Baylor College of Medicine. In addition to being heavily involved in curriculum development, direct didactic and clinical teaching, and education-related committee work, our section members serve in numerous leadership roles including at undergraduate (deans, assistant deans, course directors), graduate (associate program directors), post-graduate, and faculty levels.

Research

GIM faculty have **received new grants and maintained ongoing funding for diverse projects**. Our Environmental Health Service faculty were the recipients this year of a \$1 Million grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The RCT will address environmental factors, medical treatment and knowledge in individuals with poorly controlled asthma and chronic rhinosinusitis.

Service/Honors

GIM faculty have received multiple prestigious college level, local, and national awards and recognition – **Norton Rose Fulbright Awards for Excellence as Educators, Clinical Excellence Awards, Service Awards**.

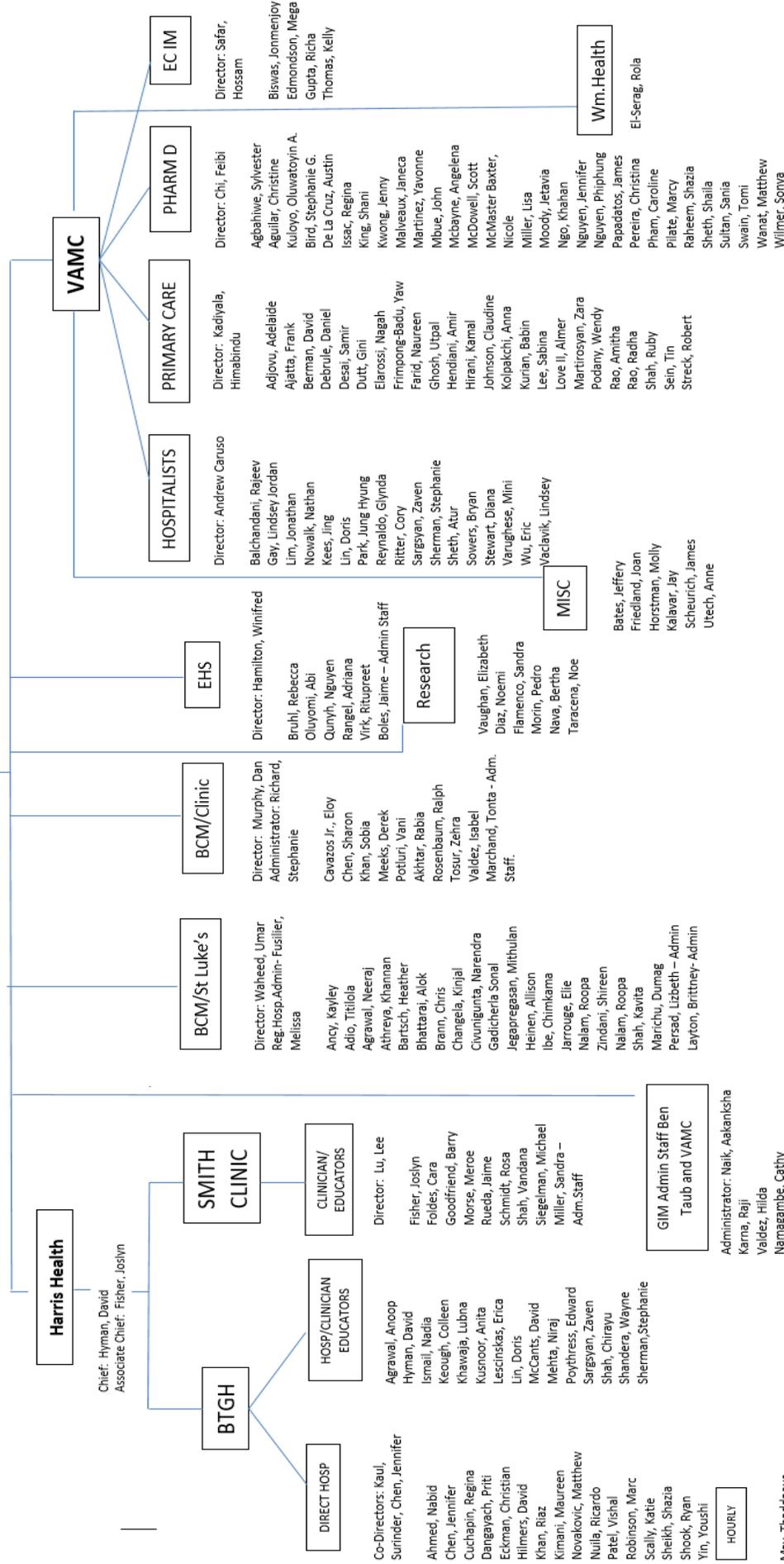
Section members are involved in several faculty and staff development initiatives. Our faculty are highly involved in **service in the DOM, across the college, and within the community**. Wellness activities have helped our faculty and staff achieve a better work-life balance.



Some of the GIM faculty at a cross Baylor GIM Primary Care Workgroup to coordinate, collaborate and develop primary care education across the section.

GENERAL INTERNAL MEDICINE

David Hyman, MD Section Chief



HOURLY
 May, Thaddaeus
 Rajashekara, Shruthi
 Kazerouninia, Amir
 Zeisig, Nicole
 Lim, Jonathan

GIM Admin Staff Ben Taub and VAMC
 Administrator: Naik, Aakanisha
 Karnig, Raji
 Valdez, Hilda
 Namagamba, Cathy

CLINICAL AFFAIRS – AFFILIATE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

GENERAL INTERNAL MEDICINE OUTPATIENT CLINIC- MCNAIR CAMPUS

New Faculty

The McNair General Internal Medicine provides excellent care to its patients. To help meet the demand for primary care in the Houston area and facilitate timely patient visits, the clinic has hired additional faculty. Two physicians, Dr. Vani Potluri, a BCM graduate, and Dr. Zehra Tosur, both joined the BCM family in late 2018. In addition, the clinic's first-ever physician assistant, Isabel Valdez PA-C. Having an extensive primary care background gained during her 11 years as part of the BCM family, Ms. Valdez's addition to the team has allowed the clinic to maintain same and next-day availability for patients with acute issues, as well as providing follow up of chronic conditions. The clinic continues to actively recruit excellent physicians, with two new faculty members expected to begin during Fall 2019.

New Initiatives

The clinic has also begun a subspecialty services to address unique women's health needs. Dr. Sobia Khan has drawn on her women's health training to initiate a **Women's Health Clinic** each Monday and offers patients extended slots to discuss women's health needs and provide counseling on functional medicine.

In addition to growth in the size of the team, the clinic instituted an initiative to improve access to care for patients and enhance job satisfaction for providers. As of July 1, 2019, the clinic began to offer **extended clinic hours**, providing office visits until six o'clock in the evening. This has enabled patients who work during business hours to attend clinic visits after work. Additionally, this has allowed flexibility of faculty work schedules to aid in physician wellness. By September 2019, four physicians are expected to offer extended hours.

Realizing the importance of safely transitioning hospitalized patient from the inpatient setting back into the community, the McNair General Internal Medicine has implemented a **discharge transitional care program**. This program is led by the clinic's LVN and seeks to coordinate patient care during the peri and post-discharge period. The team identifies discharged patient using a dedicated "GIM hospital discharge" email or via automated discharge messages in the Epic In-basket. Working in conjunction with the patient's primary care physician and employing a standardized protocol, staff members discuss clinical status, review medications, assess any urgent needs, make a timely follow up appointment, request any relevant hospital records, and answer any patient questions. Visits slots are purposefully reserved in each physicians' schedule to enable patients to be seen in a timely manner, with the goal of seeing all discharged patients within one week. Since its inception, this program has facilitated hundreds (40-70 each month) of post-hospital transitions, leading to safer care, improved patient satisfaction, and reduced unnecessary readmissions and associated costs.

Exceeding Quality Metrics

The McNair General Internal Medicine clinic has provided care to approximately 16,489 patients this academic year, with an increase of 1712 new patients during FY2019. GIM continues to provide high quality care, exceeding FGP-wide quality measures targets for blood pressure management, diabetes control, and tobacco screening and cessation, as well as screening for colorectal and breast cancer and vaccination of eligible patients against influenza and pneumonia.

BAYLOR ST. LUKE'S MEDICAL CENTER

Entering the fourth year since its inception, the Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center Hospitalists Group continues to thrive. With the successful recruitment of 10 new providers (both replacement and incremental additions) for FY20, we continue to increase the level and quality of service we provide to the greater Houston area. In FY19, the BSLMC hospitalists served over 9,000 patients.

The group continues to build relationships with their Baylor colleagues and private attending physicians alike. BSLMC hospitalists are actively involved in hospital committees, scholarly activity, and quality improvement projects at BSLMC.

Building on the infrastructure set in place since 2016, the program's focus for FY20 has shifted to fine-tuning processes so we can continue delivering measurable outcomes. This included streamlining operations by migrating to AMBS, TigerConnect, and Qgenda clinical software platforms. The creation of physician administrative leadership roles for the Hospitalist programs include a focus in case management, quality improvement, utilization management and education. There was similar growth with the administrative team to include the addition of another team member to support the growing infrastructure.

The driving force for the Baylor group to initiate the hospitalist program at BSLMC was the hospital's desire to achieve improvement in quality metrics (reduction of length of stay, re-admissions, mortality, complications and improvement in HCAPS and other quality measures). The BSLMC Hospitalist group has demonstrated success in delivering high quality care. Upcoming opportunities for the group will include expanding the clinical footprint in Houston and the surrounding areas, and implementing operational processes for continued innovation.

Dr. Alok Bhattarai receiving the hospitalist of the year award with BSLMC faculty and Staff: From Left to Right: Dr. Elie Jarrouge, Lizbeth Persad, Dr. David Hyman, Dr. Alok Bhattarai, Dr. Umar Waheed, Dr. Neeraj Agarwal, Brittany Layton and Melissa Fusilier.



HARRIS HEALTH SYSTEM

Harris Health System (HHS) is the largest public health care system in Houston and Harris County with a focus on serving a primarily low resource/underserved patient population. The Section of General Internal Medicine (SGIM) faculty at Ben Taub Hospital and Smith Clinic saw a combined 77,300 patient visits in FY19 and generated 132,000 WRVUs. This is a combination of all inpatient- teaching and hospitalist as well as outpatient services at Smith Clinic. The Harris Health SGIM group was over 117% of expected productivity for the 2019 academic year. Section members at HHS serve as leaders on numerous HHS committees including patient safety, health information management, pharmacy and therapeutics, ethics.

Ben Taub General Hospital - HOT (Hospitalist Only Team) Inpatient Care

The HOT service is comprised of general internists specializing in direct inpatient hospital management. We provide high quality care to complex medical patients at Ben Taub General Hospital with five rounding teams, one admitting team, and a night service. The HOT service holds monthly meetings focusing on patient outcomes, care management, and are in the process of joining our hospitalist partners at St. Luke's and the VA in forming a quarterly journal club. Faculty on the HOT service actively serve on hospital committees to provide crucial input in policy development. Our members work closely with nursing and hospital leadership to improve medical delivery to the bedside. We additionally meet monthly with Emergency Department leadership to streamline the transition from our triage department to the wards.

Ben Taub - Inpatient Teaching Service

Baylor College of Medicine faculty provide supervision of inpatient medical care for hundreds of residents and students annually. The inpatient teaching service includes 8 ward teams, a consult service, and a special rotation for upper level residents to learn hospital medicine (RITE) team. The inpatient teaching service consistently receives outstanding evaluations from students and residents.

Harris Health System's – Smith Clinic

Smith Clinic is our affiliate institution Harris Health's outpatient clinic. Over 90 house staff participate in their ambulatory continuity care clinic experience at Smith Clinic. They learn preventive medicine (eg. cancer screening, PAP smears, vaccinations), chronic disease management (eg. hypertension, diabetes, heart disease), procedures (eg. arthrocentesis, Nexplanon insertion, and incision/drainage of abscesses), and counseling skills (smoking cessation, dietary modification, and goals of care). Several faculty have their own half day direct care clinics at Smith Clinic and provide primary care to patients and the VIVA clinic serves survivors of intimate partner violence and sexual assault. The mean patient volume ranges from 1000 to 1100 visits per month. Smith Clinic meets and exceeds quality metrics including cervical and breast cancer screening as well as diabetes-related indicators. In this past academic year, led by Dr. Lu (Director of Smith Clinic), the Smith Medicine Clinic faculty and residents completed a Quality Improvement Project on accurate blood pressure (BP) measurement. The data were presented at local conferences. The "Nurse Stat" (rapid response resident-led team) was successfully initiated and reduced the number of calls to 911/EMS services.



Go Astros! Left-Right: Dr. Lee Lu, Dr. Meroe Morse, Dr. Cara Foldes.

MEDVAMC Hospital Medicine

The Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center Section of Hospital Medicine continued to be a productive academic group for the Academic Year of 2018-2019. As of close of June 2019, our section now consists of 17 Hospitalists comprising 15 FTE. Of those hospitalists we now have 2 members of our team who focus their clinical efforts on nocturnal work, but also contribute to the daily daytime work at point during the year.

At the close of 2018-2019 academic year we brought to fruition two new clinical teams that our team has developed to stay well positioned in leading clinical care at the VA. We created a new teaching-based admission focused team called the 'Swing Admitter' team that functions during the hospital peak admission times and provides one on one attending supervision of a resident trainee admitting multiple patients to the hospital. This new role was created in response to the needs of the hospital and has thus far produced an excellent record of supervised clinical care that has been important for the clinical development of the residents who have taken the role and important to help maintain the nocturnal hours of the night admitting teams and for hospital flow. In addition to this Swing Admitter, our section has converted one of our prior ward teams to a direct care team.

The direct care team matches a Hospitalist with a Physician Assistant and the two directly care for patients in the classic nonteaching Hospitalist model. This new team has been beneficial for team member direct care skill and for contribution toward VA centric goals of care. In total, our VA Hospitalist group through our work with our now 7 teams and daily Nocturnist presence provides portions of care for close to 70% of the VA inpatient admission flow.

As the new academic year 2019-2020 has kicked off, our team hopes to continue its balanced approach to clinical care, academic work and educational leadership. We are proposing an expansion package to VA leadership so that we can continue to grow our goals and provide excellent clinical care that also continues to train hundreds of learners every year. We hope to continue to develop our Pubs at Pub and Works in Progress efforts, and in doing so attract further participation from around the BCM community to increase our shared BCM experience and collaboration. The section is positioned for a very productive year and is excited to continue growing at Baylor College of Medicine.

MEDVAMC Prime Care

Primary Care Providers are the first point of contact for patients entering the VA system. At MEDVAMC, we have a robust and vibrant Primary Care section. Currently, we have 54 full time Primary Care Providers – 40 Physicians, 9 Nurse Practitioners, and 5 Physician Assistants. All our Primary Care Providers are highly driven individuals who are passionate about providing longitudinal care to our patients and establish meaningful relationships with patients over time. They are holistic in their approach, and are effective advocates, and knowledgeable about various resources available to patients.

Our veterans receive outstanding and exemplary quality of care. On a wide array of Quality Metrics such as Comprehensive Diabetes Care, controlling high Blood Pressure, Statin therapy in patients with Cardiovascular disease, medical assistance with Smoking, Cancer screenings (Breast, Cervical, and Colon) – our metrics exceed community benchmarks. Suicide prevention is our top clinical priority. With excellent integration of Mental Health services in Primary Care,

we are able to provide a comprehensive continuum of mental health care and suicide prevention services to end Veteran suicides.

As digital technology plays a more and more critical role in health care, we are able to extend our access to care beyond the traditional office visit. In the past year, 80% of our Primary Care providers connected with their patients through digital health technology – VA Video Connect. We are ready to deploy the Annie App which will enable our patients to receive automated text messages which will help them with self-care. Providers can send motivational and educational messages to encourage patients to stay on track with their care plan and achieve their goals.

The Women's health center offers outstanding integrated healthcare with services including general primary care - gender specific, mental health, maternity care coordination, and comprehensive breast care services including breast tomo synthesis and same -day services. Health care metrics for women including breast cancer and cervical cancer screening have been consistently higher than national average. Health care disparities between male and female veterans have been reduced significantly and in some cases reversed with female veterans now having higher blood pressure control and diabetes control than male veterans.

Dr. Radha Rao is the lead clinician for our Tobacco Cessation Program, and is involved in implementing the National Policy, most recently helping make MEDVAMC a smoke free facility. She educates staff from all disciplines, serves as a consultant to Oncology and Transplant teams, and counsels and treats veterans with Nicotine addiction on a daily basis. Homeless PACT(H-PACT) continues to provide comprehensive primary care and mental health services tailored to the unique needs of homeless veterans

As set by VHA, our full time Primary Care Providers carry a panel of 1200 patients and a NP/PA carries a panel of 900 patients. On the average, about 600 patients are seen in Primary Care clinics every day.

Primary Care physician leadership includes Dr. Kadiyala (Chief of Primary Care) and the team leaders – Drs. Frimpong-Badu, Hirani, and Adjovu. Dr. Rola El-Serag is the Medical Director of our Women's Health Program. In addition to overseeing the day to day operations of this large section, Primary Care leadership chairs several committees, and are members of many high value committees in the hospital.

BCM Environmental health services

While the environmental service has had a very fruitful year in the research arena, in the clinical arena, of particular note is a partnership with United Healthcare (UHC) Community Plan of Texas to provide service to their members; the agreement is now in final negotiations. UHC will refer to EHS their poorly controlled asthmatics. Clinical care will be reimbursed normally. UHC will also pay through a vendor agreement with us for home assessments, home-based intervention and supplies, as well as education of primary care physicians as part of our novel hand-back program. The program is based on the findings of our HIITBAC study. The effort uses an innovative outcomes-based payment system, which is expected to serve as a model for other asthma programs and health plans across the country.

Environmental Health has continued its nationally recognized community outreach efforts, including hosting the first ever Town Hall on Asthma, working closely with the Green & Healthy Homes Initiative (which was instrumental in bringing UHC and BCM together), publishing with other PCORI awardees about community engagement, and working closely with the Resident Councils at two Houston public housing complex in designing outreach efforts and an upcoming clinical trial addressing asthma and chronic rhinosinusitis.

EHS has environmental health clinics at Smith Clinic (adult; medical director: N Hanania) and the Pediatric and Adolescent Health center in Pasadena (PAHC; medical director: M Hanfling). Because EHS has no AMS FTE, the two clinics are primarily used for research and clinical care funded by outside sources (e.g., the Chevron-Phillips Chemical Company settlement). Area children with elevated blood-lead levels are routinely referred to the PAHC, which collaborates with the City of Houston and Harris County departments of health to address the exposure source(s).

We also developed a “Remember 7” campaign to help educate area residents on how to protect their health and rebuild more resilient homes (and lives) after the next flooding event.



EHS personnel after the Cuney Homes Social. Left to right: Oluyomi, Nguyen, Rangel, Haffey, Boles and Hamilton

H-TOWN FLOODS AGAIN!		REMEMBER 7
	DON'T EVEN THINK IT	1 EVACUATE EARLY OR STAY IN PLACE. DON'T DROWN. -Walking away from a flooded vehicle is often a death sentence -6 inches of swift-moving water can knock you off your feet -40% of the 1,440 people who died during Katrina drowned
	EW...THIS IS GROSS	2 FLOODWATER IS TOXIC. AVOID IF AT ALL POSSIBLE. -Floodwater is polluted with bacteria, chemicals and other toxins -Flood-related air pollution can trigger asthma and heart attacks -24 people died or lost a limb from Katrina-related infections
	OUR HOME FLOODED!	3 MAKE SURE YOUR HOME IS SAFE FOR RE-ENTRY. -Floodwater often shifts hinges off their foundations -Flooded homes often have damaged electrical and gas lines -4 persons were electrocuted trying to rescue others during Harvey
	GEAR UP... BE WEIRD	4 DRESS FOR RE-ENTRY. YOUR HEALTH DEPENDS ON IT. -Coatless, boots, a mask & gloves can reduce exposure up to 99% -Your mouth, lungs and skin can be routes for serious infections -Mold growth escalates starting 24 hours after flooding
	MUCK & GUT TIME	5 AVOID HARSH CLEANERS, DRY AND VENTILATE. -Flooded carpet & couches generally cannot ever be made safe -Controlling moisture is the key way to control mold -50 persons died from CO poisoning from generators after Sandy
	TIME TO REBUILD	6 RE-BUILD SMART, HEALTHY, AND RESILIENT. -Detaching with flood- and mold-resistant materials is smart -Concrete or concrete tile backs great and can withstand flooding -Superior drywall with a gypsum core is moisture-resistant
	A SMILE IS NEEDED...	7 SEEK HELP. MAKE TIME FOR FUN ACTIVITIES. -Katrina trauma scores were worse at 2 years than at 6 months -A flooding event commonly leads to depression, loss, sleeping issues, stress-associated health problems, and broken marriages
		WWW.BCM.EDU/HTOWNFLOODS

Remember 7 Campaign.

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

FGP Baylor Medicine at McNair Campus

- As of February 2019, Block rotation for residents where residents can spend 2 or 4 weeks working with the clinic's seven supervising attending's.
- Resident continuity clinics (4 residents) allow residents the opportunity to provide care for their own panel of patients in continuity clinics. Given the private practice-oriented nature of the clinic and monthly process improvement meetings, residents will learn about clinic practice workflows, billing and coding, and clinic process improvement efforts.

BSLMC Hospitalist Program:

- In June 2018, the BSLMC Hospitalist team started the Resident Hospitalist Team, also known as RITE team, at Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center. This rotation allows upper level residents the opportunity to experience hospitalist medicine including attending several committee meetings and multi-disciplinary rounds. Prior to starting our hospitalist rotation there were no primary services for the internal medicine residents aside from medical ICU.
- Now in our second year, we have been offered the opportunity to expand our team to include sub-intern medical students. The growth of our teaching service is in line with the overall mission of the joint venture to make BSLMC a superior academic medical center.

VAMC Hospital Medicine

- Our section continues to be primarily a teaching focused clinical group. We strive to provide evidence based timely and quality inspired supervised care to the Baylor College of Medicine trainee teams that we supervise.
- Our VA group has been working hard to increase our academic product development by creating a new 'Works in Progress' meeting once a month. Modeled after a traditional lab meeting, the works in progress format is a rotating schedule that requires every team member to present updates to their academic updates to the entire team. The effort is supported by a clear framework that makes the presentation style straightforward and easier to prepare, and also is mentored by BCM section lead Dr. David Hyman and HSR&D team member Dr. Molly Horstman.
- Numerous faculty hold academic leadership positions as highlighted in our academic leadership section of our report.

VAMC Primecare

- Currently 95 Internal Medicine Residents from BCM and UT have their Ambulatory Continuity clinics at MEDVAMC.
- Drs. Ashley Bose and Kamal Hirani took a lead role in organizing M&M Conferences in Primary Care. They discuss adverse outcomes associated with medical errors and systems issues, which can affect patient care. These discussions are well -received by staff as the focus is on quality improvement and patient safety

Teaching activities at Harris health

- Smith Medicine Clinic is a Harris Health System (HHS) primary care clinic where ninety-three Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) internal medicine residents spend their three-year residency taking care of their continuity patients.
- Smith Medicine Clinic also has medical students rotating through during their ambulatory internal medicine clerkship.
- In this past academic year, led by Dr. Lu, the Smith Medicine Clinic faculty and residents completed a Quality Improvement Project on accurate blood pressure (BP) measuring. The data were presented at the Baylor College of Medicine 6th Annual Quality Improvement and Patient Safety Conference and at the 2019 Annual VA Quality Scholars Summer Institute Conference.
- Many clinic faculty presented lectures at the Wednesday school ambulatory curriculum, served as PP3 preceptors and participated in many educational activities.

Teaching activities HHS- Ben Taub Hospital

- GIM BT faculty are heavily involved in teaching activities throughout the college with and without institutional support.
- Our faculty are involved in teaching courses such as PPS 3, APEX, MS I and II and core clerkship lectures amongst many others. Many of our faculty also lead select elective courses across the college.
- Numerous faculty hold leadership positions in UME and GME as outlined on our academic leadership section.

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

RESEARCH GRANTS

New Grants:

BCM EHS Comprehensive Asthma Management Program. Corporation for National & Community Service (CNCS), PI: Bruhl, Rebecca 9/1/2018–8/31/2019. This grant, administered by and with the support of the Green and Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI), funded administrative support for the establishment a comprehensive asthma management program with UnitedHealthcare's (UHC's) Community Plan of Texas. The sustainable clinical effort uses an innovative value-based payment model.

The Houston "Breathe Easy" Healthy Homes-Based Model for Multifamily Rental Communities, Contract #12650902, **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)**; PI: Hamilton, Winifred. 11/15/2018–11/14/2021. The EHS launched a new initiative in two large inner-city public housing communities operated by the Houston Housing Authority. The RCT will address environmental factors, medical treatment and knowledge in individuals with poorly controlled asthma and chronic rhinosinusitis. The program, with strong community involvement including CHWs from the affected communities, includes detailed home exposure assessments, as well as assessment of clinical measures such as lung inflammation, allergic status and fungal mycosis.

The Program of Narrative Medicine at BCM led by **Nuila R**, recently received a grant from Humanities Texas, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The grant will be administered by a partnership between The Program of Narrative Medicine and the Rice University Humanities Research Center, and will support "Narrative Medicine in the Texas Medical Center."

Existing Grants:

Technology to improve the health of resource-poor Hispanics with diabetes PI Vaughan, Elizabeth. 04/01/2017 - 03/31/2022. National Institute of Health.

Protecting the Health of Houstonians and Texas Gulf Coast Residents, The Jacob and Terese Hershey Foundation, PI: W Hamilton, 3/1/2018–2/28/2019.

Pathways Linking Neighborhood Environments to Activity Behaviors, American Cancer Society, PI: L Strong. Co-Is: Hamilton, Winifred and Oluyomi, Abiodun 9/1/2014–8/31/2019.

The Houston Home-Based Integrated Intervention Targeting Better Asthma Control (HIITBAC) for African Americans, Contract #AS-1308-0588, Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), Co-PIs: Hamilton, Winifred and Hanania, Nicola 2/1/2014–6/30/2019.

Geospatial Analysis of High-Risk Areas for Vector-Borne Transmission Utilizing Satellite Imaging Technology, ExxonMobil Foundation, PI: Nolan, M. Co-I: Oluyomi Abiodun, 1/1/2018–12/31/2019.

Environmental Exposures, Health and Resilience before and after Hurricane Harvey in a Houston-Area Cohort of African-American Adults with Poorly Controlled Asthma, 1 R21 ES029690, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), Co-PIs: W Hamilton, Winifred and Oluyomi, Abiodun 2/1/2018–1/31/2020.

BCM Environmental Health Initiative, U.S. Department of Justice (Chevron Phillips Chemical Company settlement), PI: W Hamilton, Winifred 7/1/2011–6/30/2020.

Environmental Health Outcomes Research among Hurricane Harvey Survivors, 1 R21 ES029616, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), PI: Bondy, Melissa [transferred to A Oluyomi 10/1/2019], Co-investigator: W Hamilton, Winifred 2/1/2018–1/31/2020.

Hurricane Harvey DR2: Individual Chemical Exposure Assessments, 1 R21 ES029460, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), PI: Anderson, Kim (Oregon State University), Co-I: Oluyomi, Abiodun 2/1/2018–1/31/2020.

Workplace Violence in Outpatient Physician Clinics, 1 R01 OH011680, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), PI: L Pompeii, Lisa. Co-I: Oluyomi, Abiodun. 9/1/2018–8/31/2021.

Gulf Coast Center for Precision Environmental Health (GC-CPEH), 1 P30 ES030285, National Institutes of Health (NIH) and National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), MPIs: C Walker, Cheryl CJ Elferink, E Symanski, 4/1/2019–3/31/2024

PUBLICATIONS/ABSTRACTS/OTHER SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

Books and Books Chapters

Book chapter. **Hilmers DC**, "Nonvenereal Treponematoses", Chapter 145 in Feigin, et al. Textbook of Pediatric Infectious Diseases. 8th edition. 2018

Book chapter. Arrington A, **Hilmers DC**, Campbell J. "Ebola and Marbury Hemorrhagic Fevers", Chapter 187 in Feigin, et al. Textbook of Pediatric Infectious Diseases. 8th edition. 2018

Fisher, J. Co-Author of a chapter in a recently released book titled "Trauma-Informed Healthcare Approaches: A Guide for Primary Care" published by Springer. The chapter is titled "Trauma-Informed Care: Helping the Healthcare Team Thrive"

Shandera WX, Clark E. "Viral and Rickettsial Diseases," In McPhee SJ, Papadakis et al, eds: 2020: Current Medical Diagnosis and Treatment. New York, NY: McGraw Hill

Wanat MA, Sulaica E. Aspirin therapy for primary prevention of cardiovascular disease. <http://www.acc.org>. June 14th, 2019. <https://www.acc.org/education-and-meetings/patient-case-quizzes/2019/06/14/08/27/aspirin-therapy-for-primary-prevention-of-cvd>

Wanat MA. Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics. Virtual Critical Care Rounds I Educational Module – Society of Critical Care Medicine. Updated February 2019.

Holyk A, **Wanat MA.** Prevention of cardioembolic stroke in obese patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation. <http://www.acc.org>. June 10th, 2018. Available online: <http://www.acc.org/education-and-meetings/patient-case-quizzes/2018/06/28/15/11/prevention-of-cardioembolic-stroke-in-obese-patients-with-nonvalvular-atrial-fibrillation> .

Peer Reviewed Publications

Hamilton WJ, Bruhl RJ, Oluyomi A, Minard C, Ramamurthy U, McNeill LH, Perkison WB, Solomon A, Hanania N. The Houston home-based integrated intervention targeting better asthma control (HIITBAC) for African Americans: a randomized pragmatic clinical trial. Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute, 2019.

Lee A, Linton H, Kilsby M, **Hilmers D**. [A program to treat hepatitis B in North Korea: A model of antiviral therapy in a resource-poor setting](#) *Gut Liver*. 2018 Aug 30. Epub ahead of print.

Horstman M, Salas E [Web exclusive annals for hospitalists inpatient notes caregiver engagement in hospital medicine the next frontier](#) *Ann intern med* 2019 Jan 15 Epub ahead of print

Pincavage A, Fagan M, **Ismail N, et al**. [A national survey of undergraduate clinical education in internal medicine](#) *J Gen Intern Med*. 2019 Apr 16. Epub ahead of print.

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Abstracts/Posters

Agrawal, Anoop; Keough, Colleen; Rodríguez, Fatima; Ghali, Bassem. Faculty development and teaching in Social Medicine: A framework for integration of social medicine into academic work through peer meetings and social medicine rounds. *Social Medicine Consortium* 2019. Chiapas, Mexico.

Rocha M, Chladek M, Ayyala U, **Caruso, A**, Dunnington H, Kung D, Lye C, Doane J, Purkiss J, **Kusnoor, AV**. A Novel Sub-Internship Communication Skills Curriculum for Transitions of Patient Care. Poster. BCM Showcase of Educational Scholarship, Houston, TX, September, 2018.

Rocha M, Chladek M, Ayyala U, **Caruso, A**, Dunnington H, Kung D, Lye C, Doane J, Purkiss J, **Kusnoor, AV**. A Novel Sub-Internship Communication Skills Curriculum for Transitions of Patient Care. Oral. Southern Society of General Internal Medicine, Houston, TX, February, 2019.

Friedland, J, Shah V, Laufman L. The Power of Professionalism Award: Fostering Professionalism in an Academic Institution. Association of American Medical Colleges Annual Meeting, November 2018, Austin, TX

Hyman D, Pickett SJ, Carrillo JC, **Fisher JW**. The Wandering Heart: A Case of Acquired Pseudo-Dextrocardia, Southern Society of General Internal Medicine, Houston, Texas, February 2019.

Fisher JW, Giordano T, Haudek S, **Johnson C** & Vice Chair Group of Faculty & Staff Development, et al. Sunshine Grants: Planting Seeds of Wellness in an Academic Medical Department, Texas Medical Association Physician Wellness Exchange, Houston, Texas, March 2019.

Kusnoor AV, Ayyala U, **Caruso A**, Dunnington H, Kung D, Lye C, Poszywak K, Purkiss J, Rocha ME. Development of a Novel Assessment of Medical Student Communication Skills Involving Transitions of Patient Care. Poster. BCM Showcase of Educational Scholarship, Houston, TX, September, 2018.

Kusnoor AV, Ayyala U, Caruso A, Dunnington H, Kung D, Lye C, Poszywak K, Purkiss J, Rocha ME. Development of a Novel Assessment of Medical Student Communication Skills Involving Transitions of Patient Care. Oral. Southern Society of General Internal Medicine, Houston, TX, February, 2019.

Kusnoor AV, Ayyala U, Caruso A, Dunnington H, Kung D, Lye C, Poszywak K, Purkiss J, Rocha ME. Development of a Novel Assessment of Medical Student Communication Skills Involving Transitions of Patient Care. Poster. Clerkship Directors in Internal Medicine, Philadelphia, PA, April 15, 2019.

Dicady, Mirlande; **Keough, Colleen**; Fameux, Edelyne; Bradke, Amanda; Official, Guerdye; Dag erus, Phélès; Georges, Néri. Triage Implementation and Evaluation in the Pediatric and Adult Emergency Rooms of a Rural Public Hospital in Haiti. The Consortium of Universities for Global Health 2019. Chicago, Illinois.

Kulkarni, S. Hyponatremia unmasking a medication side effect. Society of Hospital Medicine Annual Meeting. National Harbor, MD. March 2019

Horstman, M. Post discharge resources use and 30 day un-planned hospital readmissions in patients admitted for heart failure. Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., May 2019

Horstman, MJ; Naik, AD; Godwin, K. Development of a healthcare improvement portfolio for promotion across health professions. Society of Hospital Medicine Annual Meeting. National Harbor, MD. March 2019

Horstman, MJ; Razjouyan, J; Shahin, J; Naik. Post-discharge resource use and 30 day unplanned hospital readmissions in patients admitted for heart failure. Society of Hospital Medicine Annual Meeting. National Harbor, MD. March 2019

Kulkarni, S . A multifaceted approach to increase trainee scholarly activity. Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., May 2019

Ravishankar, **Lescinskas**. A Coincidental Finding of Native Valve Aspergillus Endocarditis presented at Southern Society for General Internal Medicine 2019, February 2019.

Diab, **Lescinskas**. A fishy diagnosis: consider mycobacterium when evaluating chronic wounds. presented at Southern Society for General Internal Medicine Feb 2019 and Society for Hospital Medicine, May 2019.

Cai, C, Eke C, Brown A, Mallepally N, Lin, D, Wong W, Staggers K, **Lescinskas E, Lu LB** Proton pump inhibitor stewardship: Deprescribing proton pump inhibitors in a primary care clinic. Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., May 2019

Hopkins, C, Skinn, K, Hester, R, **Lin, D**. It may sound cheesy...an interesting case of neurobrucellosis in an HIV patient. Society of Hospital Medicine Annual Meeting. National Harbor, MD. March 2019

Diab, L; Farr, A and **Lin, D**. An unusual manifestation of aspergillus in a diabetic patient. Society of Hospital Medicine Annual Meeting. National Harbor, MD. March 2019

Eke C, Cai, C, **Lu LB**. Successful reduction of overall and inappropriate PPI prescriptions in a primary care clinic. Digestive Disease Week, San Diego, CA , May 2019. Won top oral case and received AGA certificate of recognition.

Lu LB, Siebert V, Yang M, **Lescinkas E**, **Fisher JW**, **Foldes C**, Granderson A, **Ismail N**, **Morse M**, **Rueda J**, **Shah V. Schmidt** , Thomas J, **Hyman DJ**. Improving Blood Pressure Control at a Safety Net Clinic, Baylor College of Medicine Quality Improvement & Patient Safety Conference, Houston, TX, April 2019.

Tabilona J, **Lu LB**. To bell or not to bell: a case of atypical facial nerve palsy. Southern Society of General Internal Medicine, Houston, TX, February, 2019.

Stonecipher A, Jiang J, Strasma A, Bhatia R, **Lu LB**. A Not so Bening Rash. Society of Hospital Medicine Annual Meeting. National Harbor, MD. March 2019

Mallepally N, **Lu, LB**. A confusing case of confusion. Southern Society for General Internal Medicine Feb 2019

Wang T, **Lu LB**. An unusual case of usual knee pain. Southern Society for General Internal Medicine Feb 2019

Murphy, D. Understanding primary care physician's information needs during inbox message processing, Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., May 2019

Morse M, **Lee S**, Rose S, Agrawal A, Moore, L, Wesley M. A "Food As Medicine" Teaching Kitchen Workshop -Promoting Salutogenesis Among Providers. Physician Health and Wellness Exchange, Texas Medical Association, March 2019. Collaboration between Baylor College of Medicine and The University of Texas School of Public Health, Houston, Texas

Rose S, **Morse M**, **Agrawal A**, **Lee, S**. From complaints to commitments: a grassroots effort to improve faculty and staff well-being within the Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) Faculty Group Practice (FGP). Physician Health and Wellness Exchange, Texas Medical Association, March 2019.

Triozzi J, McDermott, L and **Morse M**. Chronic Pain Management in the Ambulatory Setting: A Learning Needs Assessment of Internal Medicine Residents and an Educational Intervention. SGIM, Southern Region: Feb 2019, Houston, TX

Nowalk, N. Resident representation on hospital committees: A model for advocacy, quality improvement and professional growth. Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., May 2019

Pickett, G, **Nowalk, N**. A quince complication of transjugular liver biopsy. Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., May 2019

Pickett, G, **Nowalk N**. Check your bias at the door: A case of anchoring bias in refractory immune checkpoint inhibitor associated colitis. Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., May 2019

Strong LL, **Oluyomi AO**, **Hamilton WJ**, Nguyen N, Wetter DW, McNeill LH. "Associations of police-reported crime with physical activity in a faith-based sample of African Americans." Society of Behavioral Medicine 40th Annual Meeting & Scientific Sessions. March 6-9, 2019. Washington DC

Escobar B, **Oluyomi A**, Valverde I, Montealegre J, Jibaja-Weiss M. Using Geographic Information Systems Mapping to Target a Cancer Prevention Theater Outreach Program to the Medically Underserved. Poster presented at the 16th Annual Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center Symposium, Baylor College of Medicine. March 1, 2019. Houston, TX.

Oluyomi AO, et al. "Hurricane Harvey Rapid Health and Environmental Assessment Study: Preliminary Results." Invitation to present at the BCM Department of Medicine Grand Rounds. Houston, TX. January 24. Houston, TX.

Escobar B, **Oluyomi AO**, Valverde I, Montealegre J, Jibaja-Weiss M. Using Geographic Information Systems Mapping to Target a Cancer Prevention Theater Outreach Program to the Medically Underserved (poster). 16th Annual Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center Symposium, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX, Friday, March 1, 2019.

Fanny SA, **Oluyomi AO**, Camp EA, Murray KO, Cruz AT, Chumpitazi CE. Geospatial Distribution of Pediatric Emergency Department and Urgent Care Patients' Residences and Discharge Diagnoses after Hurricane Harvey (poster). American Academy of Pediatrics National Conference and Exhibition, Orlando, FL, November 2–6, 2018.

Strong LL, **Oluyomi A**, **Hamilton WJ**, Nguyen N, Wetter DW, McNeill LH. Associations of Police-Reported crime with Physical Activity in a Faith-Based Sample of African Americans (poster). Society of Behavioral Medicine, Washington, DC, March 2019.

White DL, **Oluyomi AO**, Dong Y, Richardson P, Nguyen Y, Thrift A, Royse K, Chang E, Jiao L, Garcia JM, Kramer JR, Ahmed S, Chiao E. Kaposi Sarcoma Incidence Remains Unchanged among African American Males in the Southern United States: U.S. Cancer Statistic Data, 2000-2014 (poster). 22nd International AIDS Conference. Amsterdam, The Netherlands, July 23–27, 2018

Rajashekara S. Graduates' Perceptions of the Centers of Excellence in Primary Care Education Training Program and Impact on Future Role in Primary Care. Southern Society of General Internal Medicine, Houston, Texas, February 2019.

Amenta, EM; Mohammed, AD; **Ritter C**. A vasopressor refractory complex shock caused by superior vena cava syndrome. Society of Hospital Medicine Annual Meeting. National Harbor, MD. March 2019

Hussain, W; **Rueda, J**. Staying abreast with a case of dermatomyositis. Society of Hospital Medicine Annual Meeting. National Harbor, MD. March 2019

Dlouhy, LJ; **Rueda, JJ**. Hypokalemic hyperthyroidism causing paralysis. Society of Hospital Medicine Annual Meeting. National Harbor, MD. March 2019

Sanber, K, **Shah C**, **Greenberg S** Predicting risk of clinical deterioration: a closer look at resident handoffs and rapid response. Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., May 2019

Johnston, W; Bhatia, R; **Schmidt, R**; **Lu, L**. The curious case of a rash and a growing abdomen, Society of Hospital Medicine Annual Meeting. National Harbor, MD. March 2019

Bhatia R, Strasma A, **Schmidt R**, Stonecipher A, **Lu LB**. Erythroderma: More than Skin Deep. ACP Associates Day.

Herrera LN, **Sherman S**. Stunned by a Strike to the Face: Case of Takotsubo Cardiomyopathy. Southern Society of General Internal Medicine. Houston, TX. February 2019.

Ye E, **Sherman S**. Acute Kidney Injury and Hypercalcemia from Granulomatous Interstitial Nephritis. Society of Hospital Medicine Annual Meeting. National Harbor, MD. March 2019

Ye, Emma; **Sherman, S**. Acute kidney injury and granulomatous interstitial nephritis. Society of Hospital Medicine Annual Meeting. National Harbor, MD. March 2019

Wanat MA, Nguyen KA, Ordonez ND, Thornton JD. Effect of elective pharmacy courses on student performance during advanced pharmacy practice experiences. American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy 2019 Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. July 2019.

Wanat MA, Fernandez JM, Varkey DA, Coyle EA. Teaching impact of a structured fellowship in academic pharmacy at a college undergoing curricular change. American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy 2019 Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. July 2019.

Haghparast P, Fernandez JM, Ordonez ND, Nguyen KA, Coyle EA, **Wanat MA**. Effect of competitive longitudinal advanced pharmacy practice experience on residency pursuit and match rates. American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy 2019 Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. July 2019.

Kiles TM, Zhao AV, **Wanat MA**, Garey K, Hatfield CL. Comparison of knowledge gained in a community pharmacy lab course between students with and without prior community pharmacy technician work experience. American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy 2019 Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. July 2019.

Thornton JD, **Wanat MA**, Low EV, Yande S, Crowley S, Pitman P, Fleming ML. Evaluation of a substance use disorder educational event for doctor of pharmacy students. American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy 2019 Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. July 2019.

Anyanwu P, Sansgiry S, Thornton D, **Wanat MA**. A Decision analysis of adding angiotensin ii to renal replacement therapy to treat patients with acute kidney injury and vasodilatory shock. International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA. July 2019.

Mohan A, **Wanat MA**, Abughosh SM. Medication taking behaviors in patients taking warfarin versus direct oral anticoagulants: a systematic review. International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA. July 2019.

Villanueva E, Abughosh S, Carbajal S, Egwim O, **Wanat MA**. Evaluating the Efficacy of Motivational Interviewing on Enhancing Medication Adherence for Heart Failure Patients at An Academic Health System. Alcalde Southwest Leadership Conference. Frisco, Texas. April 2019.

Adil MQ, De La Cruz A, **Wanat MA**. Prevalence of long term opioid dependence in opioid naïve patients receiving opioid infusions for analgesia in the intensive care unit. American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists Annual Meeting, Anaheim, CA, December 2018.

Wanat MA, Abughosh S, Chen H, et al. Effect of anti-arrhythmic medication drug interactions on thrombotic and bleeding outcomes in patients with atrial fibrillation. International Society of Thrombosis and Hemostasis 64th Annual Scientific Meeting, Dublin, Ireland. July 2018.

Wanat MA, Abughosh S, Chen H, et al. Risk of thrombosis and bleeding in patients treated with warfarin or apixaban for non-valvular atrial fibrillation: A large, national, retrospective study. International Society of Thrombosis and Hemostasis 64th Annual Scientific Meeting, Dublin, Ireland. July 2018.

Stokes LB, Bertrand L, Colavecchia AC, Roux RK, **Wanat MA**, Aparasu RR. Evaluation of a pharmacy-led bedside medication delivery service at a comprehensive cancer center. University of Houston Medication Safety Symposium. June 2018.

Zheng, H. Ileal Neobladder, an often overlooked cause of non anion gap metabolic acidosis. Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., May 2019

National and Regional Presentations

Fisher JW. Challenges in the Medical Care of Immigrants, American College of Physicians Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, April 2019.

Hamilton WJ. Did You Prescribe a Spacer? Findings from a Recent Clinical Trial of Houston-Area African-American Adults with Asthma. Principles of Public and Community Health, Rice University, Houston TX, April 2019.

Hamilton WJ. Environmental Exposures and Health Status Before and After Hurricane Harvey in a Cohort of Poorly Controlled Asthmatics: Preliminary Findings, Hurricane Harvey 2 Years After: A Symposium, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX, August 2019.

Kusnoor AV. The Sub-internal Academic Half Day: How to Install Successful Transitions of Care Workshop into Your Program. Clerkship Directors in Internal Medicine. Philadelphia, PA. April , 2019.

Oluyomi A, Hamilton W. Associations of police-reported crime with physical activity in a faith-based sample of African Americans. Society of Behavioral Medicine 40th Annual Meeting and Scientific Sessions, March 2019, Washington D.C.

Oluyomi AO. Application of GIS in the Medical Field. Fundamentals and Applications of GIS, The University of Texas School of Public Health, Houston, TX, November. 2018.

Oluyomi AO. From Precision Medicine to Planetary Health: The Built Environment Deserves More Attention. Research Seminar Series, Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences, School of Public Health. University of Washington, Seattle, WA, Thursday, June 6, 2019.

Sargsyan Z. Updates in Hospital Medicine 2019” Invited Plenary Presentation. Southern Society of General Internal Medicine (SSGIM), Houston, TX, 2/15/2019.

Sherman S, Manesh R, Geha R. Expert case discussant. Syncope: a diagnostic schema. Clinical Problem Solvers Podcast. January 2019.
<https://clinicalproblemsolving.com/2019/01/31/episode-12-syncope-with-dr-stephanie-sherman/>

Sherman S. Expert case discussant. “Core IM Hoofbeats: 34M with fever, headache, and myalgias.” Core IM Podcast. January 16, 2019.
<https://www.clinicalcorrelations.org/2019/01/16/core-im-hoofbeats-34m-with-fever-headache-and-myalgias/>

Sherman S, Sargsyan Z, Manesh R, Jaganath A. Clinical Reasoning in Case-Based Conferences: There’s an App for That. Academic Internal Medicine Week 2019. Philadelphia, PA. April 2019. 60-minute workshop for new medical chief residents on incorporating online case solving application into morning report to enhance clinical reasoning. 120 participants.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Norton Rose Fulbright Faculty Excellence Award for Teaching & Evaluation

- Dr. Lubna Khawaja, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine – Ben Taub
- Dr. Doris Lin, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine
- Dr. Edgardo Ordonez, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine & Emergency Medicine

Norton Rose Fulbright Faculty Excellence Award for Educational Leadership

- Dr. Anita Kusnoor, associate professor, General Internal Medicine – Ben Taub
- Dr. Erica Lescinkas, associate professor, General Internal Medicine – Ben Taub

Early Career Faculty Award for Excellence in Patient Care

- Dr. Priti Dangayach, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine – Ben Taub

Graduating Class Outstanding Faculty Award

- Dr. Andrew Caruso, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine – MEDVAMC
- Dr. Matthew Novakovic, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine – Ben Taub
- Dr. Zaven Sargsyan, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine
- Dr. Stephanie Sherman, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine

Residency Program Award

- Dr. Stephanie Sherman 2019 Baylor House Staff, Teaching Faculty Award, Houston VA Hospital.

Young Alumnus Award

- Dr. Ricardo Nuila, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine – Ben Taub

The **BCM 2019 Women of Excellence** includes many women from the section of General Internal Medicine. The group was honored on March 28 at a recognition ceremony in Cullen Auditorium.

- Dr. Jennifer Chen, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine – Ben Taub
- Dr. Priti Dangayach, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine – Ben Taub
- Dr. Nadia Ismail, associate professor, General Internal Medicine – Ben Taub
- Dr. Lubna Khawaja, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine – Ben Taub
- Dr. Lee Lu, associate professor, General Internal Medicine – Ben Taub
- Dr. Meroë Morse, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine – Ben Taub
- Dr. Rosa Schmidt, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine – Ben Taub

Harris Health System Award

Dr. Priti Dangayach, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine-Ben Taub, was selected as the Harris Health Physician Champion of the Quarter for the third quarter of 2018 in recognition of her dedication and excellence in service and care of patients, guests and coworkers

Texas Medical Association Physician Wellness Exchange

Dr. Joslyn Fisher, Dr. Claudine Johnson, et al, Best Faculty Poster Award for “Sunshine Grants: Planting Seeds of Wellness in an Academic Medical Department,” Houston, TX, March 2019.

General Internal Medicine Section Awards

- Hospitalist of the Year Award: **Dr. Alok Bhattarai, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine-BSLMC**
- Barry Goodfriend Outpatient Healer of the Year Award: **Dr. Vandana Shah, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine-Smith Clinic**
- D.A.V.E.* Award (**Dedicated Academician who Values Excellence in patient care, education, and scholarly activities*): **Dr. Chirayu Shah, associate professor, General Internal Medicine-Ben Taub**
- The Joseph R. Guitreau Consummate Physician Award: **Dr. Joslyn Fisher, associate professor, General Internal Medicine-Ben Taub**



Dr. Chirayu Shah receives the **DAVE** award from Dr. Hyman.



Dr. Vandana Shah receives **Barry Goodfriend Outpatient Healer of the Year** award from Dr. Barry Goodfriend



Dr. Joslyn Fisher receives the **The Joseph R. Guitreau Consummate Physician Award** from Dr. Patrice Firpo.

Other Honors

Dr. Stephanie Sherman, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine had a Visiting Professorship. Teine Keijinkai Hospital, Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan and Aso Iizuka Hospital, Iizuka, Fukuoka, Japan.

Dr. David Hyman, professor, General Internal Medicine was selected as Chair of the Scientific Statement Writing Group on Adherence for the AHA Council of Hypertension in September 2018 and was listed in Castle and Connolly 2019 top doctors.

Dr. Zaven Sargsyan, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine – Ben Taub, gave the faculty address at the BCM School of Medicine **White Coat Ceremony** for the class of 2022. A [video](#) of the ceremony is available.

Dr. Rola El-Serag, associate professor, General Internal Medicine – VAMC, sat on a panel discussion about women veterans' issues with Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo and Congresswomen Nancy Pelosi and Sheila Jackson Lee at the Aug. 3 Texas Gulf Coast Region Veterans Mental Health Summit, held at the United Way of Greater Houston building

Dr. Sarah Candler, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine – VAMC, was elected to join the Board of Directors of the Texas Chapter of the American College of Physicians as an at-large member, effective Jan. 1, 2019. She also was recognized as an **Inspirational Physician** by the Women Physicians Section of the American Medical Association.

Dr. Stephen Greenberg, Distinguished Service professor, General Internal Medicine, was installed as the 2019 president of the American Clinical and Climatological Association at their 131st meeting, held Oct. 19 in Sarasota, FL.

Dr. Rosa Michelle Schmidt, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine – Ben Taub was selected for the Baylor College of Medicine Career Advancement Series, in the Assistant Professor Center of Excellence Scholars category.

Dr. Meroë Morse, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine-Ben Taub, has graduated from the **Fellowship in Integrative Medicine at the Center for Integrative Medicine** at the University of Arizona College of Medicine – Tucson.

Dr. Nadia Ismail, associate professor, General Internal Medicine – Ben Taub, has been elected to the national **Clerkship Directors in Internal Medicine Council** of the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine. The 11,000-member Alliance empowers academic internal medicine professionals and enhances health care through professional development, research, and advocacy.

Dr. Anne Utech, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine – VAMC, was appointed to the Senior Executive Service Equivalent position of National Director, Nutrition and Food Services, Veterans Health Administration, Washington, DC. Dr. Utech will oversee veteran nutrition policies and programs, strategic planning and national external/internal partnerships, and will serve as the VA's primary subject matter expert for nutrition & food services.

Dr. Lee Lu, associate professor, General Internal Medicine – Ben Taub, was selected to the Spring 2019 Leading Healthcare Improvement Advanced-Level Training Course. The course is offered by BCM's Institute for Continuing Professional Development in Quality Improvement and Patient Safety, and continues from March through August of 2019. She was also selected for induction into the Baylor College of Medicine Chapter of **Alpha Omega Alpha**.

Undergraduate Medical Education

Nadia Ismail, MD, MPH, MEd – Associate Dean, Curriculum

Lee Poythress, MD – Assistant Dean of Student Affairs

Cara Foldes, MD, MPH - Director of the Foundational Sciences Curriculum and Course director, CABS-Evidence-Based Medicine (EBM)

Anita Kusnoor, MD – Director of PPS3 (Patient, Physician, & Society 3); Director, Medicine Sub-internship, Chair of Baylor CPX Exam Committee, Vice Chair of Sub-Internship Committee

Andrew Caruso, MD – Director, Internal Medicine Core Clerkship

Lubna Khawaja, MD – Director/Coordinator, Internal Medicine UME Electives

Rajeev Balchandani, MD – Assistant Course Director, PPS3

Lindsay Jordan Gay MD- Site Director Medicine Clerkship, MEDVAMC

Colleen Keough MD, MPH- Pathway leadership, Global Health of Pathway Leadership

Katie Scally MD- Course Co-Director of Transition to Clinics

Claudine Johnson, MD- Associate Director of D-DASH- Determinant, Disparities, and Social Health of Populations

Niraj Mehta, MD – Director, Ben Taub Hospital Bedside Physical Exam Rounds

Joey Fisher, MD, MPH - Course Director for electives Beyond the Exam Room: Physician as Advocate and Women & Health: Outside the Traditional Curriculum

Wayne Shandera, MD - Course Director electives for Nuclear Ethics, Human Rights and Medicine and Readings in HIV-AIDS Epidemiology

Vaclavik, Lindsay- The BCM VA Associate Director for Chief Resident in Quality and Safety (Dr. Lindsay Vaclavik) and the

Glynda Raynaldo and Dr. Jing Kees- UT Houston Site Director and Associate Site for MEDVAMC

Graduate Medical Education

Anoop Agrawal, MD- Program Director, Joint Medicine-Pediatrics residency program

Allison Heinen, MD - Assistant Director of Medical Education, BSLMC

Erica Lescinkas, MD - Associate Program Director, Internal Medicine Residency Program

Zaven Sargsyan, MD - Associate Program Director, Internal Medicine Residency Program

Chirayu Shah, MD - Associate Program Director, Internal Medicine Residency Program

Stephanie Sherman, MD – Associate Program Director, Internal Medicine Residency Program

Faculty / Continuing Medical Education

Cara Foldes, MD, MPH & Joslyn Fisher, MD, MPH – Co-Directors, General Internal Medicine Grand Rounds – Regularly Scheduled Series (CME)

Administrative/Other Service Leadership

Harris Health System:

Co-Chair, Pharmacy and Therapeutics– David Hyman, MD, MPH

Director, Employee Health- David Hyman, MD, MPH

Chair, Health Information Management – David Hyman, MD, MPH

Chair, Ethics Committee, HHS – Joslyn Fisher, MD, MPH

Assistant Chief of Medicine for Education: Anita Kusnoor

Co-chair, Inpatient Clinical Advisory Committee (IT committee)-Chirayu Shah, MD

Physician representative, Opiate/chronic pain management task force- Meroe Morse, MD

Baylor Clinic:

Medical Advisory Board of MDVIP: Steve Rosenbaum, MD

BSLMC:

Chair of Utilization Management Committee BSLMC: Elie Jarrouge, MD

Department of Medicine:

Vice-Chair, Faculty & Staff Development, Joslyn Fisher, MD, MPH

BCM:

BCM Faculty Senators: Anita Kusnoor, MD; Lee Lu, MD; Jennifer Chen, MD; Michelle Schmidt, MD, MPH

Chair, Institutional Policy Committee, BCM: Joslyn Fisher, MD, MPH

Co-Chair of BCM GME Resident-as-Teacher Committee: Stephanie Sherman, MD

Chair: Resident Service Evaluation Committee for Internal Medicine residency: Erica Lescinskas, MD

Director, Program in Narrative Medicine, Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy: Ricardo Nuila, MD

MEDVAMC

Associate Chief of Staff – Quality, Safety, Value – Jung Hyun Park, MD

MEDIA – In the News

Drs. Erica Lescinskas, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine – Ben Taub and Barbara Trautner, associate professor, Health Services Research, were mentioned in a July 10 [article](#) in the University of Michigan's *lab blog* titled "More Than Half of Catheterized Hospital Patients Experience Complications." They are co-authors of a manuscript that the article was based on. The information also was covered in a University of Michigan *Futurity* July 12 [article](#) titled "Patient reports suggest it's better to avoid catheters."

Dr. Ricardo Nuila, associate professor, General Internal Medicine authored an article on Maternal Mortality published in *Texas Monthly*, May 2019

Dr. Winnie Hamilton, associate professor, General Internal Medicine – Ben Taub, was interviewed for a Sept. 18 [article](#) for CNN titled "Pig poop and coal ash are real concern in North Carolina floods."

The published [work](#) of **Drs. Daniel Murphy, assistant professor,** Ashley Meyer, assistant professor, Dean Sittig, adjunct professor, and Hardeep Singh, professor, all of Health Services Research, and **Derek Meeks, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine,** was discussed in an Oct. 9 [article](#) in *Politico* titled "Rethinking the e-trigger."

Dr. Sarah Candler, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine – VAMC, was invited to provide an [article](#) in the *Annals of Internal Medicine's* Fresh Look blog for early career and training physicians, titled "Inconceivable! What do we value in high-value care?"

Isabel Valdez, physician assistant and instructor, General Internal Medicine, was interviewed for a Dec. 20 [story](#) on Fox 26 News about cold symptoms and treatments.

Isabel Valdez, physician assistant and instructor, General Internal Medicine, was interviewed for a Dec. 31 [article](#) in *Covering Katy News* titled "Baylor College of Medicine offers tips on preventing and treating colds."

Dr. Elizabeth Vaughan, assistant professor, General Internal Medicine-Ben Taub, and Noé Taracena, community health worker, General Internal Medicine-Ben Taub, were on [Radio Amistad](#), KHCB 1400, on Feb. 6 for a one-hour Spanish program "Temas Vitales: Diabetes 101 y los beneficios de promotores" to discuss diabetes in Latinos (epidemiology, treatment, prevention) and study outcomes for the group's CHW-led diabetes group visit clinical trial.

Dr. Niraj Mehta, associate professor, General Internal Medicine Was interviewed for a June 24 article in *The Katy News* titled "Birthday Cupcake Campaign at Ben Taub Hospital Reaches 1,000th Milestone."

WELLNESS



Interesting Facts@ Faculty Bingo
Retreat 2019



Food as Medicine Wellness Event
January 2019



GIM Admin Team Escapes the Room!

