DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE
ANNUAL REPORT

DEDICATION, DETERMINATION AND DISCOVERY

2021
DEDICATION, DETERMINATION AND DISCOVERY

I am pleased to present to you the 2021 Department of Medicine Annual Report entitled “Dedication, Determination and Discovery.” Since the onset of the COVID pandemic, our accomplishments as a Department have been truly remarkable. Through the dedication and determination of our faculty, trainees, and staff, the Department assumed responsibility in every conceivable way to help the institution manage the influx and care of COVID patients in the emergency room, on the inpatient services, in the ICUs and in the clinic, and the challenges that resulted from the impact that the pandemic had on our tripartite mission. Every Section contributed their expertise to treating patients and advancing the research and educational programs during this pandemic. Some examples of these tremendous efforts are highlighted below:

• Key contributions to pandemic planning and implementation for the medical center, the University and the State of Illinois
• Creation of two incremental care models in the Emergency Room, and expanded ICU and inpatient services to care for the influx of COVID patients
• Development of a COVID specific Transitions Clinic and a Post COVID-Recovery Clinic
• Rapid implementation of telemedicine and training of faculty and trainees on the new platform
• Activation of several impactful clinical trials including remdesivir, tocilizumab, hydroxychloroquine for COVID treatment and participation in the NIH sponsored Moderna, and Janssen vaccine trials
• Highly visible COVID research on the role of vitamin D in COVID susceptibility and treatment, vaccine development, and the need for mechanical ventilation through the use of high flow nasal cannula and helmet based ventilators
• Managed the shutdown and safe reopening of our research laboratories

This past academic year the Department continued to achieve remarkable success in every aspect of our tripartite mission. Medicine investigators successfully competed for a record high of $72M in total research funding, and continued to translate basic research into clinical practice with multiple seminal discoveries, publishing over 2,000 impactful papers with dozens in high profile journals, and conducting nearly 1,700 clinical research studies. Our expertise was acknowledged with USNWR recognition for our clinical programs in Gastroenterology, Cancer, Diabetes/Endocrinology and Pulmonary Medicine, and NIH top 15 recognition in research funding. Our mission. Medicine investigators successfully competed for a record high of $72M in total research funding, and continued to translate basic research into clinical practice with multiple seminal discoveries, publishing over 2,000 impactful papers with dozens in high profile journals, and conducting nearly 1,700 clinical research studies. Our expertise was acknowledged with USNWR recognition for our clinical programs in Gastroenterology, Cancer, Diabetes/Endocrinology and Pulmonary Medicine, and NIH top 15 recognition in research funding.

OTHER NOTABLE DEPARTMENTAL HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

• The appointment of 8 new administrative leaders: Raghu Mirmira, MD, PhD as Vice Chair of Translational Research; Jing Chen, PhD as Associate Vice Chair of Translational Research; Sonal Smith, MD as Chief, Section of Hematology/Oncology; Christine Babcock, MD as Interim Chief of the Section of Emergency Medicine; Jennifer Plasen, MD as Interim Chief of the Section of Infectious Diseases & Global Health. Within our clinical programs, Sean Fynes, MD is the Director of the Advanced Heart Failure Program and Co-Director of the Heart and Vascular Center; Michael Bishop, MD as the Director of the David and Elisa Jones Center for Cellular Therapy, and Uzma Siddiqui, MD as the Director for Therapeutic Endoscopy
• Four institutional leadership appointments: Vinvi Anupama, MD as Dean for Medical Education; Yoav Glick, PhD as Dean for Biomedical and Health Informatics; Miles Saunders, MD as Assistant Dean for Multicultural Affairs; Tipu Pur, MD, PhD as Associate Chief Medical Officer for Clinical Operations
• Three named professorships: Eric Palmer, MD as the Donald F. Steiner Professor; Roberto Lang, MD as the A.J. Carlson Professor and Jing Chen, PhD as the Janet Davison Rowley Distinguished Service Professor in Cancer Research
• National and state recognition for the outstanding work of our faculty. For example, Fumio Olopade, MD was elected to the National Academy of Sciences; Michelle Le Beau, PhD was the recipient of the Henry M. Stratton Medal from the American Society of Hematology; David Rubin, MD was selected as the recipient of the Sherman Prize by the Bruce & Cynthia Sherman Charitable Trust; Stacie Levine, MD received the Gerald Hohman Distinguished Service Award from the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine; Sonal Smith, MD received the 2021 ASCO Excellence in Teaching Award; John McConnell, MD was selected by the ACEM as the recipient of the Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award and Helen Te, MD received the American Society of Transplantation Physician of Distinction Award
• Highly successful residency and fellowship match
• Cultivation of a new generation of translational scientists via our Coggeshall Fellow and Pathway to Research
• Increased cultural awareness and enhanced diversity, equity and inclusion efforts

I am proud to lead a Department that is comprised of clinicians, scientists and educators that are dedicated and determined to advance our tripartite missions. I commend all of our faculty, trainees, and staff for their amazing contributions to our success over the past academic year.

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Chairman, Department of Medicine  
**Everett E. Vokes, MD**

**Executive Committee:**
- Vice Chair of Appointments & Promotions: Steven White, MD
- Vice Chair of Clinical Operations: Matthew Somerrino, MD
- Vice Chair of Education: John McConnell, MD
- Vice Chair of Faculty Development: Deborah Burnet, MD
- Vice Chair of Research: Yoav Gilad, PhD
- Vice Chair of Research (Basic): Bana Jabri, MD, PhD
- Associate Chair - Appointments & Promotions: Raghu Menia, MD, PhD
- Associate Chair - Ambulatory Operations: Lisa Vinci, MD
- Associate Chair - Clinical Research: Hedy Kindler, MD
- Associate Chair - Quality: Andrew Davis, MD
- Associate Chair - Translational Research: Jing Chen, PhD
- Executive Administrator (Interim): James Manthey

**Section Chief Council:**
- Biomedical Data Science: Robert Grossman, PhD
- Cardiology: James Liao, MD
- Dermatology: Diana Bolotin, MD, PhD
- Emergency Medicine: Christine Babcock, MD (Interim)
- Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism: Ronald Cohen, MD
- Gastroenterology, Hepatology & Nutrition: David Rubin, MD
- General Internal Medicine: Deborah Burnet, MD
- Genetic Medicine: Yoav Gilad, PhD
- Geriatrics & Palliative Medicine: Stacie Levine, MD
- Hematology/Oncology: Sonali Smith, MD
- Hospital Medicine: David Meltzer, MD, PhD
- Infectious Diseases & Global Health: Jennifer Pizzo, MD (Interim)
- Nephrology: Arlene Champion, MD
- Pulmonary/Critical Care: Gokhan Mutlu, MD
- Rheumatology: Marcus Clark, MD

**Committee Chairs:**
- Diversity Committee: Monica Vela, MD
- Women’s Committee: Julie Oyler, MD

**Chief Residents:**
- 2021 Chief Residents: Jennifer Cooperstock, MD, Stephanie Kelly, MD, Jonathan Latell, MD, Hannah Ruth, MD
- 2022 Chief Residents: Maria Dreyer, MD, Michael Jacobs, MD, Ross McMillen, MD, Kathleen West, MD

**Senior Management:**
- Budget and Finance: Sunil Goel, Jim Sliker
- Clinical Revenue and Billing: Shefali Patel, Allison Buonomici
- Clinical Research Support: Ashley Hoambrocker, Sharon Frazier
- Clinical Trials Financial Group: Chris Yaron
- Human Resources (Academic): Max Marchenky
- Human Resources (Staff): Katie Pizer
- Information Systems: Michelle Wright
- Research Administration: 
- Research Strategy & Development:
Elected Fellows of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences

American Society for Clinical Investigation

Elected Members of the Association of American Physicians

American College of Physicians Masters

Department of Medicine Named Professorships

Elected Members of the National Academy of Medicine

Distinguished Service Awards

Leif B. Sorensen, MD, PhD Faculty Research Award (Cont.)

Diversity Award

Biological Sciences Division Awards

Leif B. Sorensen, MD, PhD Faculty Research Award

Eve Van Cauter, PhD - Frederick H. Rawson Professor

Vineet Arora, MD - Herbert T. Abelson Professor

Harvey Golomb, MD - Lowell T. Coggeshall Professor

David Meltzer, MD, PhD - The Joseph B. Kirsner Professor of Medicine

Vineet Arora, MD - Herbert T. Abelson Professor

Eugene Chang, MD - Martin Broyer Professor

James Liao, MD - A.J. Carikon Professor *

Mark Ratain, MD - Harold H. Hines, Jr. Professor

Michelle Le Beau, PhD - Arthur and Marian Edelstein Professor

David Meltzer, MD, PhD - Farry L. Pritzker Professor

Eric Pamer, MD

Kenneth Polonsky, MD

Marcus Clark, MD

Arlene Chapman, MD

Michael A. Becker, MD (Emeritus)

Frida Cox, MD

Marcus Clark, MD

Evelyn Vokes, MD

Michael A. Becker, MD (Emeritus)

Alan Leff, MD (Emeritus)

Harvey Golomb, MD

Lucy Godley, MD, PhD

Elbert Huang, MD, MPH

Eugene Chang, MD

Michael A. Becker, MD (Emeritus)

Vineet Arora, MD

Julian Solway, MD

Evelyn Vokes, MD

Evelyn Vokes, MD

Graeme Bell, PhD

Vineet Arora, MD

Eric Pamer, MD

Kenneth Polonsky, MD

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Eric Pamer, MD

Kenneth Polonsky, MD

Marcus Clark, MD

Evelyn Vokes, MD
Victoria Barbosa, MD, MPH, MBA, associate professor of medicine (Section of Dermatology), is a clinician and researcher whose expertise is in the field of alopecia and diseases of the scalp. She has a unique career path which has spanned research and leadership in industry in addition to patient care in academic and private practice settings. Her work has been characterized by clinical excellence as well as research that has helped to move forward the understanding of hair and hair loss, particularly for women of African descent.

Dr. Barbosa began her research career at the international cosmetics company L’Oreal where she built the L’Oréal Institute for Ethnic Hair and Skin Research. Her research at L’Oréal mainly focused on understanding differences in the physical and mechanical properties of hair of people of different ethnicities, looking at novel approaches to achieve chemical alteration of hair structure to change fiber characteristics and examining African American women’s experiences with hair care, hair loss and grooming behaviors. In her seven years there she rose to the level of Vice President of Research and Development where she led a team of chemists, biologists and physicists. After leaving industry, Dr. Barbosa spent a brief time on the faculty at Rush University before building a successful private practice which she ran for 9 years. Her clinical expertise has been recognized with recognition in the Chicago magazine’s list of Top Doctors six times.

Returning to academics in 2019, Dr. Barbosa joined the Section of Dermatology to resume her research and teaching activities while continuing her clinical work. Her current research focuses on health seeking behaviors of people with hair loss, with an eye towards developing programs and educational materials that address the delays in care that are commonly seen in alopecia patients, particularly in African American women. She is also researching the efficacy of online coursework as a tool for the education of resident physicians in the area of diagnosing and managing alopecia in African American women.

Educating physicians and patients is a priority and passion for Dr. Barbosa. She has lectured extensively both nationally and internationally at dermatology meetings on the topics of alopecia, dermatology in skin of color and cosmetics. She has also published textbook chapters and research in these areas. She has co-edited the textbook "Skin of Color: A Practical Guide to Dermatologic Diagnosis and Treatment" and co-authored the lay-person’s book, "The Reader’s Digest Guide to Skin Care.

Marina Chiara Garassino, MBBS, is an internationaly recognized expert in the treatment of thoracic malignancies. She joined the faculty of the Department of Medicine in April 2021 as professor of medicine in the Section of Hematology/Oncology. Prior to her arrival, Dr. Garassino served as chief of the Thoracic Oncology Unit at Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori in Milan, Italy where she led the clinical and translational research efforts in advanced and locally advanced non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), small cell lung cancer (SCLC), mesothelioma, and thymic malignancies.

As an active clinical investigator, Dr. Garassino's work is focused on investigating targeted agents, immunotherapies to treat thoracic malignancies and developing oncologic precision medicines and immunotherapies, and has advanced the global standard of care in several areas. Among her impactful discoveries she and colleagues established EGF-related therapies in the second line setting and specifically for patients without EGF mutations, refining the treatment paradigm. Dr. Garassino has also conducted impactful investigations that furthered the understanding of the role of immunotherapy with or without chemotherapy in advanced NSCLC. She and her colleagues discovered that blocking the PD-1 pathway with pembrolizumab in addition to chemotherapy showed a greater survival benefit among patients with metastatic nonsquamous NSCLC without EGF or ALK mutations. These findings changed the treatment paradigm of and treatment guidelines for lung cancer, promoting immunotherapy plus chemotherapy as first-line treatment for patients with this type of cancer. Dr. Garassino has led or participated in a multitude of other clinical trials investigating novel therapeutic regimens and has been instrumental in examining potential biomarkers for the treatment of lung cancer.

Dr. Garassino graduated from the Medical School of Universita degli Studi of Milan, Italy, where she also completed her training in medical oncology. After a fellowship at the Christie’s Hospital in Manchester (UK), she served as a physician oncologist in prestigious Italian cancer centers. She has authored over 200, peer-reviewed publications, including New England Journal of Medicine, Lancet Oncology, Journal of Clinical Oncology, JAMA Oncology, Annals of Oncology, Journal of Thoracic Oncology and Cancer Immunology and Immunotherapy.

Prior to her arrival to Chicago, Dr. Garassino was at the heart of the COVID-19 outbreak in the Lombardy region of Italy. She established and brought together an international group of physicians and investigators to study the impact of COVID-19 on patients with lung cancer, enrolling more than 1500 patients into a registry. The Thoracic Cancers International COVID-19 Collaboration, or TERRAVOLT includes 1541 institutions from 18 countries and data from their work has been published in Lancet Oncology and Cancer Cell.

Dr. Garassino is an active member of European Society of Medical Oncology (ESMO), the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer, and others. She has been invited to speak hundreds of times at international congresses, symposiums, meetings, including as a discussant and presenter at plenary sessions at ASCO, and as chair of multidisciplinary sessions at ESMO. Dr. Garassino also serves as chair of the National Societies Committee for ESMO. She is the founder of the AIOM GIOVANI (Italian Young Oncologist Committee) and founder and president of Women for Oncology in Italy. Dr. Garassino has mentored numerous fellows, many of whom have an international standing in the thoracic cancer research community.
Sean Pinney, MD is an internationally renowned expert in heart failure and cardiac transplantation. In July 2020 he joined the faculty as professor of medicine in the Section of Cardiology, and as co-director of the Heart & Vascular Center and director of the Advanced Heart Failure, Transplant and Mechanical Circulatory Support Program at the University of Chicago Medicine.

Dr. Pinney attended Georgetown University where he received both his undergraduate and medical degrees. He completed residency training at Boston’s Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and fellowships in cardiology, heart failure & transplantation at Columbia University. In 2004, he joined the faculty of the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai where he directed the Advanced Heart Failure & Cardiac Transplant Program. In 2015, he was appointed Director of Heart Failure and Transplantation for the Mount Sinai Health System until his recruitment to the Mount Sinai Transplant Program. In 2015, he was appointed Director of Heart Failure and Transplantation for the Mount Sinai Health System until his recruitment to the Department of Medicine.

Dr. Pinney’s research interests align with his clinical work in heart failure and transplantation. He has led both NIH and industry-sponsored trials in the areas of heart failure, cardiac transplantation and mechanical circulatory support. His early work focused on the pathophysiology and treatment of cardiac allograft vasculopathy (CAV). This included a seminal paper on the use of sirolimus to prevent CAV progression (Circulation, 2003), which ushered in a new therapeutic advance for heart transplant patients. His later work focused on understanding the clinical outcomes of patients supported with mechanical circulatory support devices, especially continuous-flow left ventricular assist devices (CF-LVAD). This work included an analysis of the INTERMACS registry to better characterize and understand the risk of pump thrombosis associated with the HeartMate II LVAS which was critical in furthering the design of future devices (J Heart Lung Transplant, 2014). Dr. Pinney served as site co-investigator and the national co-chair of the medical management subcommittee for the MOUNTAIN study, the largest trial of CF-LVADs to date. Together with a colleague, he characterized changes in blood pressure during CF-LVAD support and their association with clinical outcomes (J Heart Lung Transplant, 2020). Dr. Pinney has also conducted heart transplant research that has included participation in several NIH trials of novel immune-modulating drugs such as bortezomib and tocilizumab, and the use of novel molecular diagnostic tests like donor-derived cell free DNA to detect allograft rejection and injury.

Dr. Pinney serves on the editorial boards of Journal of the American College of Cardiology (JACC), JACC Heart Failure, the Journal of Heart & Lung Transplantation and the Journal of Cardiovascular Failure. He serves on the Board of Directors for the American Society of Transplantation, and is past president of the New York Cardiothoracic Transplant Consortium. Dr. Pinney has served on the New York American Heart Association Board of Directors, the Greater New York Geriatric Cardiology Consortium and the medical advisory board for the New York Organ Donor Network. While in New York Dr. Pinney was named to Castle Connolly’s NY Metro Area Top Doctor’s list for 12 consecutive years and was the recipient of the 2017 Cultuman Family Award for Excellence in Physician Communication.

As a scholar, Dr. Pinney has published over 170 original papers, review articles and book chapters. As an educator, he has been a frequent CME course director and has been invited to lecture throughout the United States and around the world. As a mentor, Dr. Pinney has guided the career development of numerous fellows many of whom now direct their own programs. He is a past recipient of Mount Sinai’s Simon Dack Award for outstanding teaching and contributions to the cardiology training program.

Jing Chen, PhD, a visionary scientist and international leader in the area of cancer metabolism, joined the Department of Medicine, Section of Hematology/Oncology in August 2020. In the year since his arrival, he has been honored by President Robert Zimmer as the first Janet Davison Rowley Distinguished Service Professor in Cancer Research, and was appointed as Associate Vice Chair of translational research for the Department of Medicine. Dr. Chen also serves as the inaugural director of the newly established Cancer Metabolic Research Center and director of Basic and Translational Research in the Section of Hematology/Oncology.

Dr. Chen is a leader in the signaling and cancer metabolism fields and has made major contributions to the leukemia field and to solid tumor biology resulting in a better understanding of cancer metabolism and improved clinical outcomes. He has uncovered novel insights into the links between signaling and metabolism, using innovative studies in cellular/organistic systems. This includes groundbreaking work linking the BRAF and IDH mutant oncoproteins in leukemia has helped to establish that alternative pathways and metabolic factors influence the leukemia pathogenesis and disease development, and thus provide new insights in development of novel anti-leukemia therapies. He also works to decipher mechanistic bases underlying the pathogenic links between diets and particular oncogenic mutations by exploring the pro- and anti-tumor effects of diet-derived substances on tumors with specific genetic backgrounds. Dr. Chen’s cutting edge translational investigations have the potential to translate impactful science from bench to bedside.

Dr. Chen received a PhD in biochemistry from Emory University and completed postdoctoral research at Harvard Medical School. From 2004-2020 he served on the faculty in the Department of Hematology & Medical Oncology in the Winship Cancer Institute at Emory University rising to the rank of professor and as the R. Randall Rollins Chair in Oncology. Dr. Chen has an extensive track record of accomplishment in both original publications and research funding. His scholarly work includes very impressive set of papers where his discoveries have been published in Cancer Cell, Molecular Cell, Cell Metabolism, Nature Cell Biology, and Cancer Discovery. His research has been consistently funded throughout his career. He is currently supported by 2 NIH R01 awards and owns 6 patents for his work. As a mentor, Dr. Chen has received numerous honors and awards during his career including the American Cancer Society Research Basic Scholar Award (2008), The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society’s Career Development Program Scholar Award (2010), the Winship SK Scholar Award (2014-2019), the Distinguished Alumnus from the Graduate Division of Biological & Biomedical Sciences at Emory University (2016). Nationally, Dr. Chen is a standing member of NIH/NCI’s Tumor Cell Biology (TCB) Study Section and he has lectured extensively in the international and national arenas. As a mentor, Dr. Chen has an outstanding record of guiding young investigators to successful careers in cancer research. In 2017 he was recognized with the Winship Cancer Institute Research Mentorship Award.

In his role as Associate Vice Dean of Translational Research, Dr. Chen will work closely with the research vice chair team to enhance the Department’s scientific mission with a specific focus on the development of senior fellows and junior faculty, interested in translational research.
The Department of Medicine has a long tradition of conducting original and rigorous biomedical and clinical research that is highly innovative and impactful. Discovery and translational investigations are critical to advancing the scientific mission. FY21 was an extraordinary year for the Department due to the success of the dedicated faculty who competed for a record high of $171.6M in external research funding making for chronic diseases of older adults. In 2021, three training programs, the Digestive Health and Diseases (Eugene Chang, MD - PI) and Digestive Health and Diseases (Eugene Chang, MD - PI) and Clinical Therapeutics (Eileen Dolan, PhD - PI) and a new P30 Center for Health Aging Behaviors and Longitudinal Investigations (P30) – Bana Jabri, MD, PhD+.

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The Department of Medicine acquired 44 new or competitive-ly renewed federal awards totaling approximately $33M in annual total costs. Noteworthy high impact grants include the successful renewal of the P30 Center for Interdisciplinary Study of Inflammation and Host Response to Infections and the Stability of Transplantation Tolerance (P01) - Marisa Alessi, PhD, the C. Michael Armstrong Professor of Genetics (P30) – Graeme Bell, PhD, the Diabetes Research Training Center (P30) – Graeme Bell, PhD, the Center for Interdisciplinary Study of Inflammatory Infectious Disorders (P30) – Bana Jabri, MD, PhD+, and the Center for Health Aging Behaviors and Longitudinal Investigations (CHABLIS) (P30) – David Meltzer, MD, PhD+

select COVID-19 related research, the Department of Medicine received 24 awards in FY21 totaling over $84M. Significant awards include: John Schneider, MD received a $3.7M NIH U19 supplement to implement and evaluate a COVID-19 testing approach that combines an evidence-based social network testing strategy with community developed COVID-19 public health messages. Dr. Meltzer received a $1.7M Institute of Translational Medicine supplement to study the effects of vitamin D on COVID-19 outcomes and results of his study were published in JAMA Open Network, 2020 with over 360,000 online views to date and a metrics score of over 3000, putting it in the top 1000 of scientific papers ever ranked; Katherine Thompson, PhD received an award from HRSA to support the COVID-19 Genomics Workforce Enhancement Program.

The Department of Medicine is committed to training the next generation of scientists in biomedical research, and is home to eight T series, two K24 training programs and 38 K (career development) grants. In FY21, three training programs, the Digestive Health and Diseases (Eugene Chang, MD - PI) and Clinical Therapeutics (Eileen Dolan, PhD - PI) and Respiratory Biology (Julian Solway, MD - PI) were successfully renewed. Fumio Oishi, MD, PhD successfully renewed a K2 to develop an oncology workforce for the 21st century. Two junior faculty, Drs. Bhakti Patel and Nathan Schellinger, received new individual NIH K awards. This 7th annual Janet D. Fowley Research Day was held virtually on March 9, 2021 with an outstanding presentation by Nobel Laureate, Gregg Semenza, MD, the C. Michael Armstrong Professor of Genomic Medicine, Pediatrics, Oncology, Medicine, Radiation Oncology and Biological Chemistry at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Best abstract winners in the faculty category were Drs. Xue Gao, Kimberly Stanford and Maria Puya.

In the trainee category best abstract winners were Drs. Yanyong Cui, Alka Kacior, Xuan Han and Marilyn Arosenea.

Recognizing the research success of an outstanding mid-level scientist the Department selected Milda Saunders, MD and Alexandra Dumitrescu, MD, PhD as the recipients of the 2021 Leif B. Sorensen, MD, PhD/Faculty Research Award. Dr. Saunders focuses her work on health disparities and quality of care, particularly related to chronic kidney disease and Dr. Dumitrescu’s research is focused on the study of the pathophysiology of inherited defects affecting the thyroid function.

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In the trainee category best abstract winners were Drs. Yanyong Cui, Alka Kacior, Xuan Han and Marilyn Arosenea.
The Department of Medicine’s clinical programs are recognized for excellence across a broad spectrum of subspecialty patient care services for the treatment of highly complex diseases. The COVID-19 pandemic challenged the traditional doctor-patient interaction but, despite these challenges, patient care continued to grow with the innovation of telehealth platforms. Department of Medicine investigators quickly mobilized research trials for hospitalized COVID-19 patients defining the use of medications such as tocilizumab and remdesivir and pioneering the use of innovative ventilation techniques to improve patient outcomes in the ICU. David Matzke, MD, PhD, chief of the Section of Hospital Medicine, and his colleagues, noted that higher than average vitamin D levels may confer protection against COVID-19 infection especially in black patients and organized a clinical trial to assess these challenges. The Emergency Department (ED), under the direction of Linda Drueckert, MD and Thomas Spiegel, MD, organized the emergency room to rapidly assess patients and opened a separate emergency room area to care for the increased number of COVID-19 patients as the pandemic expanded. Hospital Medicine defined treatment protocols on COVID-19 wards to care for the increasing number of hospitalized patients. As the number of patients increased, surge protocols allowed additional help in the ED. Hospital wards and ICUs were organized to care for the patients. Department of Medicine faculty from all subspecialties helped care for patients in the ED and on the wards using a well-defined surge plan allowing additional faculty help without compromising patient care in other areas. The medicine housestaff, under the direction of John McConnell, MD, restructured the inpatient and ICU rotations to care for the increased patient numbers in the COVID-19 wards and ICUs. Department of Medicine fellows, especially from hematology/oncology, pulmonary critical care and cardiology, became involved in additional direct patient care in the hospital for COVID-19 patients and to cover the non-COVID-19 service patients.

At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, ambulatory visits declined. Telehealth platforms were quickly put into use to keep follow-up appointments with patients and a video telehealth system embedded in the electronic medical record system was fully implemented by September 2020 with over 85% of video visits successfully completed using this platform. Telehealth has continued to be an important tool to interact with patients and currently about 20% of visits remain virtual. Despite the COVID-19 disruption in patient care, telehealth has allowed ongoing care of patients and patient satisfaction surveys have yielded the highest patient satisfaction in two years. In addition, the Department of Medicine has helped structure and run the new Care Transition Clinic and the Post COVID-19 Recovery Clinic for ambulatory COVID-19 patients. To help hospital and ED overcrowding, protocols allowing ED to ambulatory care transitions were developed obviating the need for inpatient admission for many patients.

In FY21, the DOM clinical faculty continued to perform at a strong level by generating over 1.2 million physician work RVUs (wRVUs), representing a significant portion of the clinical practice activity of the entire UCM and a near 5% increase over last fiscal year. On the inpatient side, admissions increased 3% to approximately 16,162.

In FY21, the Department’s outpatient subspecialty practices and primary care visits totaled 193,842 up 11% from FY20. The Department of Medicine has helped structure and run the new Care Transition Clinic and the Post COVID-19 Recovery Clinic for ambulatory COVID-19 patients. To help hospital and ED overcrowding, protocols allowing ED to ambulatory care transitions were developed obviating the need for inpatient admission for many patients.

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The challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic for the hospital and the Department of Medicine became evident by March 2020 with the rapid increase in COVID-19 cases. With leadership from Matthew Somerville, MD, Vice Chair for Clinical Operations, several initiatives were implemented to help mitigate these challenges. The Emergency Department (ED), under the direction of Linda Drueckert, MD and Thomas Spiegel, MD, organized the emergency room to rapidly assess patients and opened a separate emergency room area to care for the increased number of COVID-19 patients as the pandemic expanded. Hospital Medicine defined treatment protocols on COVID-19 wards to care for the increasing number of hospitalized patients. As the number of patients increased, surge protocols allowed additional help in the ED. Hospital wards and ICUs were organized to care for the patients. Department of Medicine faculty from all subspecialties helped care for patients in the ED and on the wards using a well-defined surge plan allowing additional faculty help without compromising patient care in other areas. The medicine housestaff, under the direction of John McConnell, MD, restructured the inpatient and ICU rotations to care for the increased patient numbers in the COVID-19 wards and ICUs. Department of Medicine fellows, especially from hematology/oncology, pulmonary critical care and cardiology, became involved in additional direct patient care in the hospital for COVID-19 patients and to cover the non-COVID-19 service patients.
In a supportive environment focused on providing exceptional care to patients on the South Side of Chicago, the Department of Medicine (DOM) is deeply committed to the education and training of skilled physician-scientists and leaders bound for careers in academic medicine. Under the leadership of John McMinnville, MD, the Department's educational programs continue to successfully prepare trainees for careers in clinical medicine, teaching, and biomedical research. With the internal Medicine Residency (IMR) program, 90% of the graduates pursue sub-specialty training. The 2020 fellowship match successfully matched 40 residents into many of the most competitive and premier fellowship programs in the country, including 12 who continued their training at the University of Chicago. Cardiology and hematology/oncology were the most popular fellowship choices with 8 house staff in each matching to outstanding programs across the country. Other frequent fellowship choices included gastroenterology, infectious disease, pulmonary/critical care (4), and allergic and immunology (5). Importantly, the DOM was able to successfully recruit 7 new fellows who come from racial and ethnic groups that are underrepresented in medicine.

The internal medicine residents (IM) were the backbone of UCH’s response to the COVID pandemic. In the early months of the pandemic, the IM residents cared for 50% of the patients on the general wards with hospital medicine providers caring for the other half of the ward patients. In addition, IM residents cared for all of the COVID patients admitted to the ICU along with pulmonary/critical care fellows, faculty and colleagues from anesthesia and critical care. Under the leadership of the Associate Program Director Julie Oyler, MD, IM residents learned new telehealth skills. All of the internal medicine and medicine-pediatric trainees stepped up during the crisis and demonstrated the softness, communication skills, empathy and work ethic that the South Side communities have come to expect of University of Chicago physicians. Despite significant socioeconomic barriers, UCM patient outcomes were better than national averages and evidence of the outstanding care provided by Medicine interns, residents, fellows and faculty. Finally, the number of DOM trainees who contracted COVID at work was exceedingly low which is a tremendous testament to the infection control policies/protocols put in place by UCM and the infectious disease group as well as the adherence to these protocols by all of the DOM providers.

In FY21, Mimi Airi, MD and Jason Alexander, MD led the Internal Medicine Intern Selection Committee. A PSG 1 class of 41 interns was successfully recruited from 2064 applicants. IM residents from some of the most prestigious medical schools continue to be attracted to the rigorous clinical training, diverse patient population, outstanding faculty mentorship and cutting edge therapeutic interventions. 25% of the new intern class self-identified as underrepresented in medicine (URM). Drs. Monica Velasquez, Bryan Smith and the entire Diversity Committee were instrumental in recruiting talented and diverse class. The Physician Scientist Development Program (PSDP), which is led by Drs. James Liao and Sonia Kupfer, recruited four outstanding MD/PhDs to continue their residency and fellowship training in hematology/oncology and gastroenterology at the University of Chicago. The Emergency Medicine Residency Program led by Drs. Abeh, MD, MHPE continues to provide outstanding clinical training, scholarship opportunities and leadership development for 16 talented emergency medicine residents each year. The incoming class of 2024 was drawn from coast to coast with over 60% from top 50 medical schools including the Pritzker School of Medicine. Most importantly, the Emergency Medicine Residency continued its strong tradition of recruiting URIMs with 44% of the incoming class comprised of URIMs. This diverse group of individuals will continue to serve the patient population by addressing healthcare disparities both in and out of the emergency department. In accordance with these values, the emergency medicine residents had the largest amount of representation for the inaugural GME Community Champions which engages residents in a collaborative effort with community leaders against healthcare inequities. The 2020-21 graduates from the Emergency Medicine Residency Program largely pursued academic careers as 12 out of 16 obtained competitive fellowship positions or joined faculty at peer institutions.

The Section of Dermatology continues to provide excellent resident and fellowship education and training while furthering the field of academic dermatology and delivering comprehensive skin care to a diverse patient population. The Section hosted the annual Chicago Dermatological Society Educational Conference in December 2020 with a guest lecture by Lindy F. Fox, MD, Professor of Dermatology at the University of California-San Francisco. The Dermatology Residency Program, led by Adrienne Rossonga, MD, PhD received 640 applications in 2020, and successfully matched outstanding candidates to each of the three available positions. The 2021 graduates accepted dermatology faculty positions at Columbia University, MD Anderson, and Rush-Copley Medical Center. Impacted by COVID restrictions, the Section created an interactive virtual elective that received applications from 15 residents and included students from Pritzker, as well as residents and fellows from the IMR program and other departments in BSD. In FY21, Anjali Chadha, MD was appointed as the director of the medical student dermatology clerkship. Under his leadership and as COVID restrictions lifted, 16 Pritzker MS1 and MS2 students were offered an opportunity to shadow faculty in dermatology clinics. In FY22, medical students will be offered a course focused on patient consultation in dermatology. The Dermatopathology Fellowship led by Christopher Shea, MD attracted 72 applicants in 2020 and successfully filled both positions with outstanding candidates for 2022-2023. The 2021 graduate obtained a position at an academic/clinical medical system in Pennsylvania.

The Medicine/Pediatrics Residency Program led by Rita Rossi-Foulkes, MD welcomed 4 top ranked candidates into their 4 open slots. Incoming residents who began in July 2021 consist of graduates from Columbia University, University of Chicago, Rush University and the University of Illinois School at Chicago. One half of the intern class is URIM. The 2021 Medicine-Pediatrics graduating class-Pediatrics matched into highly competitive fellowships at Boston Children’s Hospital, the National Institutes of Health and at Northwestern University. The Section of Dermatology continues to provide their excellence in undergraduate and graduate medical education both institutional and nationally. In FY20, 8 Medicine faculty were recognized as “Favorite Faculty” by the Pritzker graduating. Peter O’Donnell, MD was honored as the recipient of the LHD Wood Preclinical Teaching Award. Mark Siegel, MD was awarded the Department’s Arthur Rubenstein Mentorship Award. Within the Biological Sciences Division, Jeannie Farman, MD and Mark Siegel, MD were the recipients of the Distinguished Educator/Mentor Awards for 2021. The Department of Medicine has a well-established track record of excellence in the educational training, development and mentorship of bright young trainees poised for future leadership in biomedical sciences. In this respect, senior investigators continue to provide a nurturing environment that fosters critical thinking, challenging paradigms, and a collaboration that points toward maximizing the future research potential of each trainee. The Department is the home to several nationally recognized medical research training programs, including 8 NIH-funded training (T32) grants in cardiology, adult and pediatric endocrinology, oncology, respiratory biology, digestive diseases, clinical therapeutics as well as the medical student training program. The Department also holds two NIH K2 grants in oncology and HIV-related-cardiovascular disease and outcomes research, and ten T32 NIH awards.

Educational Programs Overview

In the early months of the pandemic, the IM residents cared for 50% of the patients on the general wards In the early months of the pandemic, the IM residents cared for 50% of the patients on the general wards In the early months of the pandemic, the IM residents cared for 50% of the patients on the general wards In the early months of the pandemic, the IM residents cared for 50% of the patients on the general wards

Department of Medicine Awards

• Preclinical Teacher of the Year – Scott Stern, MD
• Clinical Teacher of the Year – Jason Alexander, MD, Adam Cifu, MD and Amber Pincavage, MD
• Postgraduate Teaching – Benjamin Derman, MD and Jay Koyner, MD
• Medicine Resident Teaching Awards:
  o Kamala Cotts, MD
  o Kyle Hogarth, MD
  o Mindy Schwartz, MD
  o Monica Vela, MD
• Emergency Medicine Resident Awards:
  o Faculty Educator of the Year – Zayir Malik, MD
  o Mentorship Award - David Harper, MD

Pritzker School of Medicine Education and Mentorship Awards

• AOA Award Banquet:
  o Alumna Honoree: John Blair, MD
  o Faculty Honoree: Kamala Cotts, MD
  o Housestaff Honoree: Shirlene Obuobi, MD
  o and Benjamin Vazquez, MD

• Favorite Faculty Award Winners:
  o Kere Carter, MD
  o Jeannie Farman, MD
  o Wei Wei Lee, MD
  o Peter O’Donnell, MD
  o Jason Poston, MD
  o Scott Stern, MD
  o Monica Vela, MD
  o James Woodcut, MD

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Dr. Corey Tabit, MD, MBA, MPH

Dr. Sean Pinney

Cardiology

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS:

- Roberto Lang, MD - Named as the A.J. Carlson Professor; selected to serve as the treasurer of the National Board of Echocardiography.

- Drs. James Liao, Matthew Sorrentino, and Michael Davidson - Recognized as Top Doctors by Chicago magazine for the 9th consecutive year.

- Amit Patel, MD - Recipient of the 2020 Rory Childers' Teaching Award named as the chairperson for the Certification Board of Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance; selected to the ACC Cardiovascular Imaging Section Leadership Council.

- Jonathan Grinstein - Selected to serve on the Emerging Leaders Advisory Panel for Medtronic.

- Atman Shah, MD - Named to the Society of Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions' Young Investigators Grant for Female Ovulation Guidelines Writing Committee.

- Karima Addetia, MD - Selected as Associate Editor for EchoCore, ASE Board Review Preparation Book and selected to the American Society of Echocardiography Scientific Sessions Committee and Research Committee.
Dr. Robert L. Grossman
Dr. Andrey Rzhetsky

Under the leadership of co-chiefs, Robert Grossman, PhD and Andrey Rzhetsky, PhD, the Section of Computational Biomedicine and Biomedical Data Science, provides a home for faculty who have a research focus in computational biomedicine and biomedical data science (data science and its applications to biology, medicine and healthcare). A strength of the Section is the number of research collaborations involving Section members.

In FY21, Bohdan Khomtchouk, PhD continued to develop the emerging discipline of bioinformatics by integrating bioinformatics and computational biology approaches to illuminate cardiovascular (vascular/metabolic) biology and enable new therapeutics. During this past year, he published a paper in Database, 2020 on HeartBioPortal — one of the largest cardiovascular disease genetics database in the world — and a paper in Nature Portfolio Journal of Bioinformatics and Microarrays on using AI/machine learning approaches for microbiome-based drug discovery to enable computationally-derived therapeutics. Dr. Khomtchouk also spun off a biotech company called Dock Therapeutics, Inc from his lab as part of the NSF iCorps program hosted through the Polsky Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation and Booth School of Business.

Kyle Hernandez, PhD worked on multiple COVID-19 related projects, including a survey of ACE2 and TMPRSS2 expression by clinical, HLA, immune, and microbial correlates across 34 human tissues and tumors associated with immunologic functions that are relevant to COVID-19 (Scientific Reports, 2021); and an on-going collaboration with researchers from Uruguay that integrates epigenomic data with evolutionary dynamics of the CoV-2 virus. Dr. Hernandez also contributed important efforts to the NCI Genomic Data Commons, which are described below.

In FY21 Dr. Rzhetsky’s laboratory completed two NIH-funded projects focused on computational analysis of patients with Down’s syndrome, and predictive modeling of clinical outcomes of patients exposed to COVID-19 infection. They probed the question of seasonality of psychiatric disorders using two very large datasets describing the health histories of 150 million unique Americans and the entire Swedish population (PLoS Biology, 2021). They found that psychiatric disorders’ annual patterns were remarkably similar across the studied diseases in both countries, with the magnitude of annual variation significantly higher in Sweden than in the US for psychiatric, but not infectious diseases.

In collaboration with the Dr. Khomtchouk’s group, the Rzhetsky laboratory generated and described methodology for natural language processing with the following individual contributions (Nature Systems Biology and Applications, 2021): (a) a new Named Entity Recognition Ontology (NERO) developed specifically for describing textual entities in biomedical texts, which accounts for diverse levels of ambiguity, bridging the scientific sublanguages of molecular biology, genetics, biochemistry, and medicine; (b) detailed guidelines for human experts annotating hundreds of named-entity classes; (c) pictographs for all named entities, to simplify the burden of annotation for curators; (d) an original, annotated corpus comprising 55,865 sentences, which encapsulate 190,679 named entities and 43,438 events connecting two or more entities; (e) validated, off-the-shelf, named-entity recognition automated extraction, and; (f) embedding models that demonstrate the promise of biomedical associations embedded within this corpus.

Starting with the common knowledge that the transition to daylight saving time (DST) is beneficial for energy conservation but at the same time it has been reported to increase the risk of cardiovascular and cardiovascular problems, the Rzhetsky group systematically interrogated DST-associated health effects (PLoS Computational Biology, 2020). They found four prominent, elevated risk clusters, including cardiovascular diseases (such as heart attacks), injuries, mental and behavioral disorders, and immune-related diseases such as noninfectious entitites and comorbidities, which are described below.

Dr. Grossman serves on the executive committee of the BloodPAC Consortium for liquid biopsy data, which has expanded to include over 50 organizational members, including most of the vendors that provide liquid biopsy assays for cancer. A paper by Dr. Grossman and other members of the consortium describing the BloodPAC Data Commons appeared recently in JCO Clinical Cancer Informatics. Dr. Grossman also continues to develop the Pandemic Response Commons, which is a persistent resource for the management, analysis and sharing of data related to COVID. The Pandemic Response Commons contains clinical, viral variant and related data from the Chicago and Illinois region.
In FY21 the Section welcomed two new faculty members, Angad Chadha, MD and Aline Ruiz De Luzuriaga, MD. Dr. Chadha, assistant professor of medicine, focuses his work on inpatient dermatology as well as supportive oncodermatology. He is the primary inpatient consultant for UCM hospitalized patients who require dermatology consultation and expertise for diagnosis and treatment of complex skin disease in the inpatient setting. Within supportive oncodermatology, his interests include adverse reactions and skin disease in patients undergoing oncologic treatments for cancer. Additionally, he sees medical dermatology patients in the DCMAC clinic. Dr. Ruiz De Luzuriaga, assistant professor of medicine and vice-chief for dermatopathology operations, has specialty training in both dermatology and dermatopathology. Dr. Ruiz’s specialty interest is in melanoma and complex pigmented lesions. She is currently working on expanding and marketing the Pigmented Lesions Program with the Section. Her clinical time is divided between seeing medical dermatology patients, holding a weekly pigmented lesions/melanoma clinic and dermatopathology service. Her research interests include quality improvement in melanoma screening and treatment. She sees patients at both the Hyde Park and South Loop practice sites.

As one of the top academic programs in the nation, focused on understanding, diagnosing, and treating the skin and its diseases, the Section continues to enhance the clinical practice with new initiatives and a renewed focus on advanced patient care and research. The Section’s clinical enterprise continues to be highly productive in outpatient visits and procedures, and in providing the highest quality interventional dermatology services. The Section’s educational program continues to cultivate a national reputation as a leader in training the next generation of dermatologists and dermatopathologists. The Dermatology Residency Program, under the direction of Dr. Rosenblatt remains a sought-after dermatology training program. In FY21, the Section was able to maintain clinical growth as the COVID-19 pandemic persisted, by continuing to provide access through a blend of teledermatology services for those conditions that could be appropriately evaluated remotely and high quality in-person care for skin diseases through clinic visits and procedures.

The Section’s investigative basic science program continues to focus on the fundamental question of how cells respond to damage from radiation and chemicals from internal or external sources to cause cancer. In FY21, Dr. Yu-Ying He’s laboratory continued to study the role of RNA methylation in UV damage response and inflammation in skin cancer. RNA modifications in arsenic tumorigenici-ty and role of RNA methylation in UV-induced DNA damage repair and tumorigenesis. This research is funded by the National Institute of Health, with these ROI grants awarded to Dr. He to support this work. Dr. He’s work has culminated in a number of publications including several in high-profile journals. Over the past year, the Section has also continued to expand its clinical trials portfolio, which currently focuses on pediatric autoimmune diseases and non-melanoma cell skin cancers. The Section was the only site in the Chicagoland area to host a clinical trial of patiromer gel, a targeted medication for patients with Gori-tin syndrome and multiple basal cell carcinomas, led by Dr. Bolotin. In the summer 2021, Dermatology was the only site in the Chicagoland area to host a clinical trial of a novel oncolytic HSV virus therapy (RP-1) for advanced cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma in solid organ transplant recipients. The Section’s pediatric dermatologists, Drs. Sarah Stein and Adena Rosenblatt, continued to carry out two interventional clinical trials - one testing ixekizumab, in pediatric patients with psoriasis; and another study focused on evaluating impact of visible and chronic skin diseases on stigma and psychiatric issues in the pediatric population. Additionally, a number of investigator-initiated trials in pediatric autoimmune diseases and hair diseases, and a translational investigator-initiated and fund- ed study of RNA methylation in squamous cell skin cancers continued through FY21.

The Section’s educational program continues to cultivate a national reputation as a leader in train- ing the next generation of dermatologists and dermatopathologists. The Dermatology Residen- ci-ty Program, under the direction of Dr. Rosenblatt remains a sought-after dermatology training pro- gram, having completed a successful match cycle this year with 639 highly competitive applicants in 2020, seeking one of four slots in 2021. The der- matopathology fellowship program, led by Chris- topher Shea, MD, also continues to remain strong by providing an excellent training experience to an elite group of dermatopathologists and pathologists with 71 applicants for one slot entering in July 2022. The Section’s newly formed Diversity Com- mittee is working closely with section and program directors to integrate the new Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) plan into recruitment efforts and educational curriculum for the section.

• Victoria Barbosa, MD, MPH, MBA - Founder. Physician Protect Initiative by CDPH; 2021 Chicago magazine’s Top Doctors, Dermatology and Castle Connolly Top Doctors, Dermatology
• Diana Bolotin, MD, PhD - Appointed as Bucks- baum Institute Senior Scholar; 2021 Chicago magazine’s Top Doctors, Castle Connolly’s Excep- tional Women in Medicine and Chicago maga- zine Exceptional Women in Medicine; elected member, American Dermatological Association; appointed chair of the American Society for Dermatologic Surgery Research Work Group and chair of the ACHS Diagnostic Quality and Teach- ing Library Committee
• Angad Chadha, MD - Course Director for Inpatient Consult Dermatology Clerkship, PSOM (2022); advisor to Medical Student Dermatology Interest Group; PSOM (2020-2021); Clerkship Director for Dermatology, PSOM
• Yu-Ying He, PhD - Appointed Co-Chair of the Photobiology Symposium, Society for Investigative Dermatology 2021 meeting; appointed: Associates Director for Shared Resources for the University of Chicago Comprehensive Cancer Center
• Mark Hoffman, MD - Invited speaker, Poyderma Gangrenosum, Division of Dermatology Grand Rounds, Loyola University
• Olawakemi Onajin, MD - Appointed Vice Chair of the American Society of Dermatopathology Young Physicians’ Committee
• Adena Rosenblatt, MD, PhD - Elected to the Association of Professors in Dermatology Program Director Steering Committee
• Aline Ruiz de Luzuriaga, MD, MPH, MBA - Appointed as Bucksbaum Institute Associate Junior Faculty Scholar; 2021 Chicago magazine’s Top Doctors. Dermatology; Chicago magazine’s Exceptional Women in Medicine and Castle Connolly Top Doctors, Dermatology
• Christopher R. Shea, MD - 2021 Chicago magazine Top Doctor and Castle Connolly Top Doctors in Dermatology
• Sarah Stein, MD - Recipient of the University of Chicago, Department of Pediatrics 2020 Donald Liu Award for Collaborative Achievement

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In October, 2020 Christine Babcock, MD, associate professor of medicine, assumed interim leadership of the Section of Emergency Medicine (EM) following the retirement of Linda Druehlinger, MD who served as chief for 9 years. Dr. Babcock served as director of the EM Residency Program for nearly a decade and has been recognized as an outstanding clinician, educator, and role model by the EM residents. Her passion for providing excellent education is exemplified by her many innovative contributions to the residency program including a redesign of the residency curriculum, implementation of a comprehensive board review program, creation of a formalized mentorship program, and advancing efforts to support a diverse and inclusive training environment. Under Dr. Babcock’s leadership, EM continues to support and maintain the operation and management of the busy adult emergency department (ED) at the University of Chicago Medical Center. In addition, the Section continues to care for a sustained COVID-19 presence in the ED as well as an increase in patients suffering from acute traumatic injuries. After a decline in volumes secondary to the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of patients presenting for emergency care has approximated pre-COVID-19 volumes. Throughout the past year, the number of patients presenting to the adult ED for care was just under 75,000.

In FY21, EM welcomed two faculty to the Section at the rank of assistant professor: Mark Chottiner, MD and Nicholas Ludmer, MD. Dr. Chottiner received his MD at the University of Maryland and is a graduate of the Section’s residency program. He completed a fellowship at Rush University in emergency ultrasonography. His interests are focused on optimizing ultrasound education for all learners within the University community. He will also serve as the director for the inaugural Emergency Medicine Ultrasound Fellowship. Dr. Ludmer received his MD at the Pritzker School of Medicine and completed his residency training at the University of Cincinnati. He then completed a Global Health Education Fellowship at the University of Chicago. His interests are focused on global emergency care and resident education in resource-limited settings.

In FY21, the Opioid Overdose and Naloxone Distribution Program, spearheaded by Paul Quinn Moore, MD two years ago, continued to care for patients with opioid use disorder and provides family members with tools to combat opioid overdose. Patients at risk of death due to opioid use are identified in the ED and patients and family members are educated on the use of naloxone and buccal/nasal naloxone post discharge. Dr. Moore was named as a site PI on a National Drug Abuse Treatment Clinical Trials Network (CTN)/New England Consortium grant that conducts clinically relevant research on the treatment of substance use disorders in real-world settings where he will specifically study the effectiveness of these interventions.

Led by David Beiser, MD, the Emergency Clinical Trials Unit (ECTU) facilitates all types of emergency research at the institution by bringing together expertise and infrastructure that enables the highest quality emergency clinical research related to cardiac arrest, brain trauma, complications of pregnancy, opioid addiction and COVID. In FY21, the CTU was very active where multiple clinical trials, funded both by the NIH and the pharmaceutical and device industry, were implemented. Dr. Beiser received NIH funding to support Project PREVENT (PReventing Emerging Infections through Vaccine EffectiveNess Testing) and to develop a project that adds audio-visual cues to signs and symptoms for COVID-19 screening. He also received an award through the Institute of Translational Medicine to develop a culturally-informed mHealth program for improving self-management of postpartum hypertension in African American women. EMS Medical Director, Katie Tatarkis, MD, launched the LITES network prehospital airway trial (PACT) and was awarded a grant by the Chicago Department of Public Health to implement prehospital telemedicine consults within the Chicago Fire Department EMS Service and facilitate the appropriate care for mental health patients. Tereisa Hogan, MD was the recipient of a $550K award from the Mayday Fund to maximize adoption of nerve blocks in the emergency room to decrease opioid use and decrease risk of delirium in hip fracture patients. Kimberly Stanford, MD focused her clinical research on identifying undiagnosed HIV infections in patients presenting to the ED. Her work has led to funding supplementation from Gilead to study linked testing for COVID-19 and HIV in EDs around the city that are part of the x-TLC group and a high impact paper in JAMA Internal Medicine (July 2021).

In basic research, Nanduri Prabhakar, PhD continued his investigative efforts as part of his NIH-funded program project grant which examines the mechanisms and consequences of the overactive sympathetic nervous system caused by chronic intermittent hypoxia and by sleep apnea. Alfredo Garcia, PhD and William Sharp, MD, PhD also continued their investigative efforts focused on the neurocognitive consequences of intermittent hypoxia, and pharmacological induced hypothermia as a novel therapy for improving survival following cardiac arrest.

As one of the oldest emergency medicine training programs in the country, the Emergency Medicine Residency Program, led by Interim Program Director James Ahn, MD, continues to attract outstanding trainees and continued its strong tradition of recruiting underrepresented minorities in medicine with 44% of the incoming class being comprised of URMs. This past year, thirteen of the sixteen graduates pursued academic fellowships. At the post-graduate level, the Section offers five clinical scholar/fellowship training programs including advanced training in medical education, global emergency medicine, medical administration, ultrasonography and emergency medical services. The ultrasound fellowship will recruit for its inaugural fellowship for the 2022-23 academic year. The Medical Student Clerkship Program, led by Kuma Carter, MD, and Paul Kukulski, MD, continues to provide excellent training for the Pritzker School of Medicine and is consistently rated as one of the top rotations by students. In global health, Keegan Choeckert, MD, was invited to collaborate with the World Health Organization Clinical Management of COVID-19 team to develop, edit and publish a course series titled ‘Clinical Management of COVID’ to provide best practices for health care workers globally, especially in low and middle income countries. In OBI efforts, Abdullah Pratt, MD, has built community partners and a broad network to mentor at-risk youth on the southside of Chicago with the long-term goal to encourage local high school and collegiate students to consider careers in health care fields with a focus on addressing health care disparities. These programs have the added benefit of exposing current Pritzker School of Medicine students and University of Chicago housestaff to community outreach, engagement, and mentorship.
A C C O M P L I S H M E N T S  A N D  H I G H L I G H T S :

- Christine Babcock, MD - Elected president, Illinois Chapter of the College of Emergency Physicians; named as DEI committee chair for the EM Council of Resident Associations; recipient of the 2021 850 Distinguished Leader in Diversity and Inclusion Award

- Ina Blumen, MD - Elected fellow, Air Medical Physician Association

- Kem Carter, MD - Recipient of the 2021 Pulitzer School of Medicine Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award and the 2021 Department of Medicine, Diversity Award

- Keegan Checkett, MD - Selected as a Senior Faculty Scholar, Buckbaum Institute for Clinical Excellence; recipient of the Emergency Medicine Resident Association 25 Under 45 National Award

- Katrin Stanford, MD - Recipient of the Best Faculty Abstract Award, Janet Rowley Research Day, 2021

- Katie Tatara, MD - Named as chair of the Education Committee for Region 11 EMS; appointed as medical director for the Chicago Fire Department’s Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) Program and selected as course director, City of Chicago EMS Base Station

- Zay’r Hall, MD - Recipient of the 2021 Emergency Medicine Residency Outstanding Teacher Award

- David Harter, MD - Recipient of the 2021 Emergency Medicine Residency Outstanding Mentor Award

- Christine Vokes, PhD and Alexandra Dumitrescu, MD, PhD completed their MD-PhD training in endocrinology and metabolic disease. In collaboration with Dr. Mirmira’s lab, she is investigating the 12/15-lipoxygenase enzyme in macrophages and how this pathway contributes to obesity and insulin resistance.

- In FY21, the Section’s clinical programs were highlighted by two innovative initiatives. In collaboration with the Section of Maternal-Fetal Medicine in the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, Laura Verma (Pediatric Gastroenterology) and Macy Mears developed a new multidisciplinary clinic with Dr. Ritu Verma (Pediatric Gastroenterology) and Dr. Tracy Mears to care for high-risk patients with Type 1 diabetes during pregnancy. Katie O’Sullivan, MD developed a new multidisciplinary clinic with Dr. Ritu Verma (Pediatric Gastroenterology) and Dr. Tracy Mears to care for high-risk patients with Type 1 diabetes during pregnancy.

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In that role he worked closely with Dr. Gilad to increase the number of well-trained young physician-scientists within each of the Department’s subspecialty sections and is currently leading the recruitment efforts for transformational physician-scientists for the Department.

As a researcher, Dr. Mirmira’s work is focused on diabetes research—specifically on the pathogenesis of diabetes mellitus and the biology of islet cells. Among his many achievements, Dr. Mirmira’s research has led to the discovery and characterization of fast-acting insulin analogues, which are widely used by patients with diabetes today. More recently, his work has begun to dramatically reshape our understanding of the immune pathogenesis of type 1 diabetes. His research has been continuously funded by NIH since 1999 and he currently serves as PI on five NIH R series and one NIH U award series. He is also the lead program director with Graeme Bell, PhD of the recently renewed T32 training program in adult integrated clinical and basic endocrinology research. As a scholar he has published over 150 scientific papers in prestigious journals, including JCI, Cell Metabolism, and Nature Communications. Dr. Mirmira currently serves as Deputy Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism, and is an elected member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation.

**ACOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS:**

- **George Bakris, MD** - Awarded the 2021 National Kidney Foundation of Illinois Lifetime of Service Award
- **Antonio Bianca, MD, PhD** - Awarded the 2020 University of Chicago Pediatric Thyroid Association Prize from the European Thyroid Association
- **Ronald Cohen, MD** - Named Associate Editor of Frontiers in Pediatric Endocrinology
- **Alexandra Domtsrac, MD, PhD** - Awarded the 2021 Department of Medicine Lief B. Sorenson Research Award
- **Michelle Lemelman, MD** - Awarded the Lucille Leiter Award for Promotion of Childhood Wellness from the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Chicago
- **Raghu Mirmira, MD, PhD** - Appointed deputy editor of Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism and editor of ENDO2021 Highlights, a summary of research presented at the Endocrine Society’s Annual Meeting in 2021
- **Louis Philippson, MD** - Awarded the Donald Steiner Award for Outstanding Achievement in Diabetes Research from the University of Chicago Diabetes Research and Training Center
- **SAQUAN STEEN** - Awarded the 2021 University of Chicago Diabetes Research and Training Center Diabetes Research and Training Center "Outstanding Mentor Award" for mentoring Dr. Mirmira’s students and research team
- **Richard Wollheim** - Awarded the 2021 University of Chicago Diabetes Research and Training Center "Outstanding Mentor Award" for mentoring Dr. Mirmira’s students and research team

Under the direction of David T. Rubin, MD, the Section of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (GH) continued to enjoy success across all missions. In the past year, GI’s clinical programs expanded to 9 sites and recently earned national recognition as #1 in the nation by US News & World Report (July 2021). Section faculty published over 300 manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals, many of which were collaborations with other departments and institutions, and includes numerous high-impact papers. The Section faculty were very active in efforts to protect patients and staff during the COVID-19 pandemic. This included leadership roles nationally and internationally, and many impact publications related to evaluation and management of patients with digestive diseases in the setting of the pandemic, clinical practice updates, and locally, active management of staff, fellows, and faculty health and well-being.

In FY21, the Section continued to grow its clinical programs both on campus and at offsite locations. The Section successfully opened a new IBD clinic in Hinsdale and plans to expand this clinic in the near future. In addition, GI faculty began performing endoscopic procedures at the UCM River East location and will continue to grow procedure volumes at the satellite locations.

The Liver Transplant Program (Michael Charlton, MD – Co-Director) continues to grow. In FY21, the Transplant Institute performed 73 liver transplants, a significant increase over FY20. Uzma Siddiqui, MD was recently appointed as director of the Center for Endoscopic Research and Therapeutics. She previously served as associate director where she was an integral part of the Center’s success. Under her leadership CERT will continue its growth into the next decade as well as provide new unique services. Dr. Chang and Dr. Rubin received a large award from Hong Kong University focused on innate immunity. Dr. Chang and Dr. Rubin received a large award from Hong Kong University focused on innate immunity.

In FY21, the Section research portfolio totaled over $13.5M and included the successful continuation of two important grants: the NIH Digestive Health and Disease T32 (Eugene Chang, MD – PI) and the NIH P30 Center for Interdisciplinary Study of Inflammatory Bowel Disease T32 (Eugene Chang, MD – PI). Yanchun Li, PhD received an NIH R01 to study the roles of m6A mRNA methylation in innate immunity. Dr. Chang and Dr. Rubin received a large award from Hong Kong University focused on the development of microbial product and Dr. Jabri successfully renewed her NIH R01 investigating innate and adaptive immunity in celiac disease.

The FY21 the GI Fellowship Program, under the leadership by Andrew Aronsohn, MD, included...
A C C O M P L I S H M E N T S  A N D  H I G H L I G H T S:  

• Drs. Russell Cohen, Ina Hanan, David T. Rubin, Carol Semsmad, Helen Te - Named as Top Doctors by Chicago magazine

• Drs. Helen Te and Carol Semsmad - Named as Exceptional Women in Medicine by Chicago magazine

• A Murat Eren, PhD - Recipient of BSD Distinguished Investigator (Junior) Award

• Carol Semsmad, MD - Recipient of the BSD Distinguished Clinician (Senior) Award and named as Master Endoscopist by The American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

• Neil Sengupta, MD - Named as chair, Practice Parameters Committee of the American College of Gastroenterology

• David T. Rubin, MD - Elected chair of the National Scientific Advisory Council of the Crohn’s & Colitis Foundation (2020-24); recipient of the 2020 Sherman Prize by the Bruce and Cynthia Sherman Charitable Foundation

• Helen Te, MD - Recipient of the 2021 Physician of Distinction by American Society of Transplantation

PROFESSORS:  
David Bulkin, MD (Chair)  
Eugene S. Chang, MD  
Michael Charboneau, MD  
Russell Cohen, MD  
Ira Banas, MD  
Ira Banas, MD, PhD  
Kareem Rice, MD  
Mary Bhatia, MD  
Carol Semsmad, MD  
Teena Sabapathy, MD  
Alvin Tu, MD

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS:  
Andrew Armstrong, MD  
Matt Bloomfield, MD  
Robert Kozlit, MD  
Sunita Kupfer, MD  
Vrundan L, PhD  
Jose Pekow, MD  
Aparna Pillai, MD  
Kavitha Adhironath Dayal, MD  
Abhijit Sakakura, MD

ASSISTANT PROFESSORS:  
Veena Rekhi, PhD  
Christopher Chapman, MD  
Sudha Saty, MD  
A. Murat Eren, PhD  
Catherine Liu, PhD  
Edwards McDonald III, MD  
Darya Faz, MD  
Sajan Rajpal, MD  
Sandeep Paul, MD  
Vijaya Rao, MD  
Neil Sengupta, MD

INSTRUCTORS:  
Hoa Duanland, MD*  
Nina Gupta, MD

CLINICAL ASSOCIATES:  
Nina Gupta, MD  
Barbara Reyes, MD

SECTION ADMINISTRATOR:  
Mark Mitchell

*Research track faculty
**Emeritus
***Research track faculty

Under the leadership of Deborah Burnet, MD, MAPP, the Section of General Internal Medicine (GIM) comprises highly talented faculty dedicated to providing exceptional clinical care, teaching and leading educational programs, and conducting innovative, real-world research and advocacy addressing pressing health disparities. The Section is home to several outstanding multidisciplinary academic centers and programs including the MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics, Bucksbaum Institute for Clinical Excellence, Chicago Center for Diabetes Translation Research, the Center for Chronic Disease Research and Policy, and the Center for Community Health and Vitality.

In FY21, GIM welcomed three new faculty at the rank of assistant professor: Hanta Shah, MD, whose interests are focused on improving access to care for underserved communities and addressing health disparities; Rasika Karnik, MD, who currently leads the Section’s Post-COVID-19 Recovery Clinic, and Elizabeth Tung, MD, Hs, who conducts highly innovative research addressing effects of community violence on health, and mentors many trainees with interests in this area.

Major accomplishments in FY21 included GIM’s rapid response to COVID-19 pandemic needs in both inpatient and outpatient settings: a new Post-COVID-19 Recovery Clinic, and effective advocacy and leadership at the institution and community level to promote equitable access to high quality care, including COVID-19 vaccines. Associate Chief Medical Information Officer, Sachin Shah, MD, used the electronic medical record infrastructure he previously developed to issue invitations to UCM patients in need of COVID-19 vaccines, and Rajashree Krishnamurthy, MD, led the team which administered vaccines to over 61,000 UCM patients and community members. Under the leadership of Valerie Press, MD, MPH, the COVID-specific Transitions Clinic (CTC) continued drive-through COVID-19 testing for thousands of patients, employees, and community members. GIM faculty cared for overflow patients from the Emergency Room as the hospital census surged, and attended on busy in-patient services. Vineet Arora, MD, MPH, prepared detailed daily updates for faculty leaders, covering COVID-19 daily hospital census, regional and national trends in cases, travel guidelines, updates on Delta variant and epidemiology, as well as research and policy updates to guide care.

After rapidly implementing telehealth visits during early weeks of the pandemic, FY21 was a time for rebuilding on-site in-person clinical operations. Under direction of Lisa Vinci, MD, MS, the Primary Care Group (PCG) cared for over 31,000 patients in FY21, the majority of whom are lower-income African Americans, who were deeply affected by COVID-19, economic displacement, and systemic racism during pandemic. To address this crisis, GIM faculty played leading roles in clinical service and advocacy. Monica Piek, MD, MPH, MS was part of the team that developed the COVID-19 crisis standards of care for the state of Illinois and served on the mayor’s Racial Equity Rapid Response team.
to address COVID-19 disparities in Chicago. With support from George Weyer, MD, Drs. Vinu and Krishnamurthy, the PCG team called and engaged thousands of ‘missing’ patients to get them back into needed care for diabetes, hypertension, and other high-risk conditions. As Dean for Clinical Affairs, John Flynn, MD, MBA, MEd, led development of the UCM clinical network, adding new practices to homewood and Dearborn Station, with many new physicians. Lisa Khamis, MD, was named medical director of the practice at River East.

In October 2020, the Section launched the new Post-COVID-19 Recovery Clinic (PCRC) to address needs of so-called COVID-19 Long-Haulers, who experience lingering symptoms after COVID-19. Under direction of Basila Kankie, MD, MS, this clinic brings new patients into the UCM system for post-COVID-19 specialty care and supports clinical research on the post-COVID-19 syndrome. In FY21, the PCRC served 265 new patients, most of whom also received UC sub-specialty care.

Under leadership of George Weyer, MD, and Mm Ari, MD, the new in-patient Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) Consult Service saw over 10 patients per week to address the rising burden of OUD in Chicago. With Sarah Dickson (APN) and JP Murray, MD (Hosp Med), Drs. Weyer and Ari address opioid needs, teach residents to care for OUD, and start patients on medication treatment with linkage to outpatient follow up through grant funding from the Illinois Public Health Institute. Readmissions have plummeted for in-patients receiving this care (9% -19.3% 30d readmissions; 29% -19% 90d readmissions).

Doriana Miller, MD, was named Medical Director for the new Liaisons in Care (LnC) program connecting medically underserved patients to care through expanding use of community health workers in PCG and other UCM clinics, and named Director of Health Equity for Institute for Translational Medicine. Anna Volkman, MD advocated for schools reopening in the Chicago Tribune and on a panel with CDPH’s Dr. Allison Arwady; she also launched a new program, AHECIVE, for high schoolers and undergraduates supporting local community organizations through service projects.

In FY21, GIM’s research portfolio totaled over $14M, which includes the successful acquisition of several new high impact awards. Elbert Huang, MD, MPH was the recipient of a new NIH R01 entitled “My Diabetes My Community” focused on mitigating health disparities through patient-centered outcomes research, and reviewed his NIH K24 award focused on research and mentorship in medical decision-making for older adults with chronic disease. Dr. Huang was recently awarded a $20M grant from NIH to launch, in collaboration with Rush Medical Center, the Chicago Chronic Condition Equity Network (C2EN), a project that will focus research efforts on addressing health disparities in chronic disease care for African Americans and Latinos in the Chicago region, Mm Ari, MD, and Neda Laiteerapong, MD, MS, in collaboration with Kate Thompson, MD (GPM) received funding from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality to implement a new pragmatic model of opioid use disorder for Chicago’s older adults. Dr. Laiteerapong, was also awarded a five-year training grant to develop the Primary Care Investigators Training in Chronic Disease & Health Disparities (PITCH) Fellowship. Milda Saunders, MD, MPH was the recipient of a new NIH R01 to develop and test an intensive Patient Referral and Education Program for Renal Replacement Therapy (PREFET) program. Monica Peek, MD, MPH, MS, was awarded an NIH Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL) award to study and address COVID-19 disparities, in conjunction with the University of Illinois at Chicago.

GM faculty continue to lead education efforts in the Internal Medicine and Med-Peds residencies and in the Pritzker School of Medicine, teaching over 130 residents in the PCG clinic and serving in a variety of leadership roles. Allison Crawford, MD, MS, launched a new residents’ curriculum in cardiovascular preventive health with support from the Academy of Distinguished Medical Educators. Rusiniak, MD, MS, continued developing the women’s health track within the internal medicine residency program, with 9 residents currently enrolled. Wei Lai, MD, MPH, led efforts to build resilience in the face of COVID-19 and other stressors among medical students, residents, and faculty. 
Genetic Medicine

Under the leadership of Yoav Gilad, PhD, the Section of Genetic Medicine demonstrated overwhelming research success in the past year. Remarkably nearly every member of the Section’s faculty is supported by extramural funding for their innovative translational genetic research. Highlights from FY21 include the recruitment of Roshni Roy-Chowdhury, PhD to the faculty and the receipt of a NIH Director’s New Innovator Award to Anindita Basu, PhD and the University of Chicago’s first Moore Inventor Award to Joshua Weinstein, PhD.

Joining the Section of Genetic Medicine in FY21 was Dr. Roshni Roy-Chowdhury, PhD. Dr. Chowdhury’s research centers on understanding the differentiability and enzymatic lysis methods, and investigate novel gene regulation during development and cellular differentiation, respectively. He also received a grant from the Damon Runyon Foundation to utilize a novel DNA microscopy. Dr. Weinstein’s research group is creating a new method of imaging that rethinks the idea of a microscope, allowing for a deeper look into the inner workings of living matter. He also received a grant from the Damon Runyon Foundation to utilize a novel DNA microscopy. Dr. Weinstein’s research group is creating a new method of imaging that rethinks the idea of a microscope, allowing for a deeper look into the inner workings of living matter. Dr. Xiayao Liu, PhD and Sebastian Potts, PhD were the recipients of NIH R35 funding to study tumor neoantigens, and a recent NIH R35 to study volumetric spatial genetic imaging with DNA microscopy. Mengjie Chen, PhD received a National Institute of Aging to establish the genetic architecture of genome-scale metabolic networks. She is specifically interested in unconventional lymphocytes and uses a suite of genomic, transcriptomic, and proteomic approaches to understand the functional consequences of their enrichment in different tissue localizations in humans. Her lab also focuses on disease modeling using organoid systems to drive mechanistic studies of human pathophysiology.

In FY21, the Section’s research portfolio totaled over $10.0M with the addition of many new awards. Dr. Basu was the recipient of a prestigious NIH Director’s New Innovator (DP2) award to leverage droplet microfluidics, develop physical, chemical and enzymatic lysis methods, and investigate novel gene regulation during development and cellular differentiation, respectively. He also received a grant from the Damon Runyon Foundation to utilize a novel DNA microscopy.

In his new leadership role, Dr. Gilad is focusing his efforts on the development and oversight of a strategic and forward-looking core facility to provide state-of-the-art research-informatics services, expert consultation, and flexible models for support of and/or collaboration with BSD facility. The development of a research specialization in medicalinformatics including recruitment of a critical mass of faculty to drive innovative, impactful research and rigorous scholarship, and the development of an integrated program for the management of biomedical and health data in close collaboration with UCM and the University to generate and disseminate biomedical knowledge and to leverage this knowledge to enhance patient care.

Yoav Gilad, PhD, Professor of Medicine, Vice Chair for Research and Chief of the Section of Genetic Medicine was appointed as Dean for Biomedical and Health Informatics in the Biological Science Division on July 1, 2021. The creation of this new position by Dean Kenneth Polansky recognizes the essential contributions that data, information, and computer sciences make in the understanding of biology, medicine and the advanced delivery of health care services. In his new leadership role, Dr. Gilad is focusing on understanding the genetics of complex phenotypes and the potential for personalized medicine using genomic sequencing, genome informatics, and functional genomics tools. In 2005 he joined the faculty of the University of Chicago, Department of Human Genetics. From 2014 to 2018, Dr. Gilad directed the Committee on Genomics and Systems Biology and from 2010 to the present, he has led the Functional Genomics Facility. Dr. Gilad is the recipient of multiple federal grants to study human disease and evolution using cutting-edge empirical and computational genomic techniques. His lab’s research focuses on understanding the genetics of complex phenotypes and the potential for personalized medicine using genomic sequencing, genome informatics, and functional genomics tools.
In FY21, Jacob Walker, MD, assistant professor of medicine, joined the GPM faculty. His academic interests are focused on the complex care needs of older adults with HIV and educating clinicians and allied health professionals on how to meet the needs of older adults with HIV/AIDS. In FY21 and in collaboration with the Section of Infectious Diseases & Global Health, Dr. Walker led the creation of the HIV & Aging Clinic, making it one of only approximately a dozen geriatric HIV programs in the country.

The inpatient and ambulatory Oncology Palliative Medicine Program continues to grow steadily under the direction of Dr. Malec. Sandy Tun, MD continues to lead collaborative efforts with surgical oncology in improving the care of persons with perioperative malignancy. The Cardiac Palliative Service has continued to grow as it provides support to patients with advanced heart failure, including patients with left ventricular assist devices and on ECMO. Within the outpatient geriatrics programs, the nationally recognized Successful Aging and Frailty Evaluation (SAFE) Clinic (Katherine Thompson, MD and Megan Husingsh-Scheetz, MD, MPH - Co-Directors) continues to provide comprehensive geriatric assessment and frailty evaluations for vulnerable older patients as well as serve as a platform for research and teaching efforts. This year the Section welcomed Jacinthe Landi, MD, who will conduct geriatric assessments within the transplant nephrology clinic.

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Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation facilities (Medical Directors Drs. Lauren Gleason and Stacie Levine). In the outpatient arena, Tia Kostas, MD, alongside clinic leadership, quickly developed telehealth options during the shutdown and implemented safety protocols for in-person visits. Dr. Malec worked closely with the team’s advance practice providers and Emergency Medicine to provide palliative care to patients and families who were affected most severely by COVID-19.

Research efforts by GPM faculty and staff are supported by a variety of external sources and include investigations that range from important geriatrics syndromes to ethics and end of life care. New grants in FY21 include funding to Dr. Thompson from HRSA for a COVID-19 related training award in support of Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program/SHARE Network (COVID-19 Response) and an NIH/ AHRQ R18 award focused on improving Chicago older adult opioid and pain management through patient-centered clinical decision support and project ECHO (I-COPE). Dr. Husingsh-Scheetz received an NIA K23 COVID-19 hardship supplement to continue her work in early frailty biomarkers and measuring patterns of activity and energy expenditure.

Within the Section’s educational programs, the Hospice and Palliative Medicine Fellowship (Charles Rhee, MD - Director) and Geriatric Medicine Fellowship (Katherine Thompson, MD – Program Director) established a new combined ACGME accredited Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine Fellowship Program. Dr. Tun coordinated advance care planning corporate training events nationwide in partnership with SHARE network and Oak Street Health. Dr. Levine was awarded bridge funding for continuation of the Coleman Palliative Medicine Training Program and to develop a primary palliative care education program to improve access for patients with cancer. The SHARE Network under the direction of Dr. Thompson continues to expand efforts to educate clinicians, patients and families within the community on best practices to support and care for older adults. Dr. Gleason is implementing clinical quality improvement and education initiatives to transform UCH into an Age-Friendly Health System. Dr. Walker participated in the American Academy of HIV Medicine’s “Intensive Course in HIV & Aging” which provides a select group of participants with a unique opportunity for hands-on learning that will improve their ability to care for older adults with HIV. Within the Pritzker School of Medicine, Dr. Kostas directed the interprofessional clerkship rotation for MS3.

• Megan Husingsh-Scheetz, MD - Recipient of the American Geriatrics Society 2021 Arti Huria Memorial Award for Emerging Investigators in the Subspecialties of Internal Medicine that are focused on the care of older adults
• Stacie Levine, MD - Recipient of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine Gerald H. Holman Distinguished Service Award
• Lauren Gleason, MD, Megan Husingsh - Scheetz, MD and Monica Malec, MD - Named as Scholar of the Center for Healthcare Delivery and Science Scholars
• Lauren Gleason, MD, Megan Husingsh - Scheetz, MD, and Monica Malec, MD - Named as Top Doctors and Exceptional Women in Medicine by Chicago magazine (2021)
In October 2020, Sonali M. Smith, Elwood V. Jensen Professor, was named as Chief of the Section of Hematology/Oncology and Co-Leader of the Cancer Service Line. Dr. Smith is an internationally recognized expert in lymphoma therapeutics with contributions in clinical care, education and clinical research. As Director of the Lymphoma Program for the University of Chicago Medicine (UCM) for a decade, her clinical research interests are in the development of new agents and rational combinations in the management of both treatment-naïve and relapsed/refractory lymphomas.

Dr. Smith serves in a number of leadership positions with national and international visibility. She is Vice-Chair of the Southwest Oncology Group (SWOG) Lymphoma Committee where she oversees clinical trial development at the cooperative group level. She was elected as a Fellow of the American Society of Oncology (ASCO) in 2019, and was awarded the 2021 ASCO Excellence in Teaching Award. She is also the current Chair of the Scientific Committee for the 2022 ASCO Annual Meeting. She is an Associate Editor for Haematologica, the world’s oldest journal on blood disorders, and is a member of the National Cancer Institute’s Lymphoma Steering Committee. In June 2021, she started her two-year term as Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board for the Lymphoma Research Foundation, the first woman to hold that position. Dr. Smith has chaired and organized the International John Ultmann Chicago Lymphoma Symposium, now in its 19th year. As a scholar, she has published over 200 publications and lectures extensively nationally and internationally.

In FY21 the Section welcomed four new faculty to the Section. At the professor level, Jing Chen, PhD was recruited to develop an oncology-focused Metabolomics Institute. He was recently named as the Janet Davison Rowley Distinguished Service Professor in Cancer Research, and also serves as Associate Vice Chair for Translational Research and Deputy Chief for Basic/Translational Research in the Section of Hematology/Oncology. Dr. Chen also established the first Cancer Metabolomics Research Center which will study the interplay between metabolic and cell signaling networks in order to understand the impact on tumorigenesis, tumor progression, and response to anti-cancer therapies. (see Faculty Highlight page 9). Marina Garasimos, MD is an international expert in lung cancer, and now leads the Thoracic Oncology Program. She is a leading investigator on the impact of COVID-19 on patients with lung cancer, with a high-impact publication entitled TERAVOLT in Lancet Oncology (see Faculty Highlight page 7). Junior faculty who joined the Section were Benjamin Derman, MD and Adam Duvall, MD. Dr. Derman’s academic interests center on plasma cell malignancies, with a particular interest in the role of minimal residual disease in clinical management. Dr. Duvall, fellowship-trained in both pediatric and adult hematology/oncology is interested in the development of a multidisciplinary program for all AYA cancers, including but also extending work in the hematologic malignancies.

Within the clinical programs, the Section has continued to provide innovative care and expansion to network sites. The Section was once again recognized by US News and World Report as one of the top cancer programs in the nation (July, 2021) and over two dozen faculty were recognized as “Top Cancer Doctors” by Chicago magazine (January, 2022). Noteworthy in FY21 was the launch of the Multi-disciplinary Neuroendocrine Tumor Clinic by Dr. Chih-Yi (Andy) Liao, the first of its kind in the Chicago area and the creation of a Post-COVID-19 Clinic in collaboration with General Internal Medicine to serve and study patients with lasting effects of COVID-19 infections under the leadership of Mark Rutan, MD.

Under the direction of Michael Bishop, MD, the Cellular Therapy and Transplant Program achieved the highest CBMTR clinical outcomes results in program history, the highest overall for the city of Chicago, and the highest as compared to projected outcomes in the city of Chicago. The Program also had the highest number of transplants and cell therapy products delivered in its history out performing FY20 volume with 46% growth despite the pandemic and is the first center in Illinois to offer all commercially-approved CAR-T products. In FY20, the Center was formally named as the David and Eliza Jonas Center for Cellular Therapy with increased capacity for manufacturing cells for existing therapies, and new capabilities for processing and manufacturing new types of cellular therapy products for treating blood cancers and benign conditions. Within the Center, Justin Kline, MD serves as Associate Director for Basic and Translational Research, Amitha Wickrema, PhD serves as Associate Director for the Advanced Cellular Therapies Facility (ACTF), and Peter Riedell, MD serves as Associate Director for the Clinical Research Program Core.

In network expansion efforts, Blaise Polite, MD was appointed as Director of Oncology for the clinically integrated network, and works closely with the Cancer Service Line and the Biological Sciences Division to strengthen a true collaborative culture for network sites.

The Section maintains a very strong and successful program in basic, translational and clinical research. In FY21 section faculty were awarded approximately $17M in total cost grant funding coupled with an additional $17M in clinical trial earnings. In FY21, Dr. Chen was awarded two new NIH R01 grants and a UOCCC Team Science Grant that are broadly focused on the interplay between metabolism-related mechanisms, signaling pathways, and the tumor microenvironment in

• Olufumilayo-Otupade, MD – Elected to the National Academy of Sciences, received the Susan G. Komen Leadership Grant (Translating Breast Cancer Genetics in the Clinics) and was named Grants of Cancer Care
• Daniel Catenacci, MD – Recipient of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) 2021 Cancer Clinical Investigator Team Leadership Award
• Eileen Dolan, PhD – Recipient of the 2021 BSI Distinguished Leader Award in Diversity and Inclusion
• Michelle La Beau, PhD (Emeritus) – Recipient of the 2021 Michael Riesse Lectureship Award and the Gold Key Award from the Biological Sciences Division
• Philip Hoffman, MD – Named as chair of Oncology Drugs Advisory Committee, FDA and recipient of the Department of Medicine Distinguished Service Award
• Olofsson Odenike, MD – Named as co-chair of the ASh Education Program 2022; Recipient of the 2021 Nobility in Science Award from the MDS Foundation and the 2020 Fletcher Scholar Award from the Cancer Research Foundation
• Peter O’Donnell, MD – Recipient of the 2021 LDH Wood Preclinical Teaching Award, FSDM
• Ari J. Rosenberg, MD – Appointed as co-chair of the Alliance Head and Neck Working Group of the Experimental Therapeutics and Rare Tumor Committee
• Wendy Stock, MD – Recipient of the 2020 American Society of Hematology Mentor Award

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With leadership by David Meltzer, MD, PhD, the Section of Hospital Medicine (HM) continues to be recognized for its innovative patient care, research and educational programs. Section faculty care for some of the most medically complex patients admitted to the University of Chicago Medicine (UCM). During the COVID-19 pandemic HM helped lead the COVID-19 response by providing excellent clinical care to the majority of hospitalized COVID-19 patients, along with related education and leadership, while continuing to grow and expand other inpatient services. HM faculty also conducted novel COVID-19 related research resulting in a $1.7M award to study the effects of vitamin D on COVID-19 outcomes and a high impact paper in JAMA, 2020 with over 370,000 online views to date and an altmetrics of over 3000, putting it in the top 1000 of scientific papers ever ranked.

In FY21, Gilmer Rodriguez, MD joined the HM faculty as an assistant professor of medicine. His academic interests include telemedicine, patient safety and patient, and plans to create a Telehealth Post-Discharge Clinic (Program) to improve continuity of care.

In FY21, HM faculty implemented innovations and improvements to the electronic health record (EHR) system, EPIC, resulting in more efficient workflows for hundreds of providers and better quality documentation and processes. Since its launch in October 2018, the Clinical Pathway Program has developed and implemented over 70 integrated clinical pathways. Cheng Kai Kao, MD, Associate Chief Medical Information Officer, led the development, implementation, and maintenance of those pathways for rapid information dissemination and practice change. The Section led on the development of COVID-19 specific integrated clinical pathways (ICPs) in the EHR addressing triage, diagnosis, and management of COVID-19 in diverse patient settings, averaging over 450 user interactions per day and 340 unique pa-
Michael Sun (medical student)

Dr. Molitch-Hou with Hospital Medicine

The Section’s research portfolio consisted of over $12 million in extramural funding in FY21 and in the midst of the pandemic, these COVID-19

During the COVID-19 pandemic, HM faculty created Interdisciplinary Case Conferences that were attended by members of various areas of the Department of Medicine and the Department of Anesthesia to disseminate information regarding COVID-19. In addition, PA-C Bridget McGrath developed, implemented and evaluated a curriculum for Virtual Clinical Internal Medicine Rotations (A Student in my Pocket: Development of a Student In my Pocket: Development of a Curriculum for Virtual Clinical Internal Medicine Rotations) for the College of Medicine.

During the crisis, the role of hazard pay, and laid the groundwork to continue to collaborate and publish continued work on the long-term effects of COVID-19 on the population. New grants received by Dr. Meltzer included a P30 center grant entitled “Center for Health Aging Behaviors and Longitudinal Investigations (CHABLIS),” to create and promote a sustained research and infrastructure development program that leverages longitudinal data to examine how demographic and economic factors facilitate or suppress individual healthy aging behaviors and, in turn, influence outcomes among older adults over the life course; a new $2M award from Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) and a 2MT supplement for $1.7M to study low versus moderate to high dose vitamin D for prevention of COVID-19 in health care workers. Ishanu Chattopadhyay, PhD received DOD/DARPA award focused on quantification of 15-mer interactions for COVID-19 misinformation.

• David Meltzer, MD, PhD - Appointed to the National Academies Committee on Building Data Capacity for Patient-Centered Outcomes Research

• Matthew Cerasale, MD - Awarded the 2020 Genentech Career Development Award, 2020 George F. O’Brien Award for Outstanding Contributions to Medicine from Mercy IM Housestaff

• Maylyn Martinez, MD - Appointed as Deputy Director of the University of Chicago US Cochrane Network affiliate

• Micah Prochaska, MD - Appointed Assistant Director of MacLean Center for Clinical and Medical Ethics; received Fellow in Hospital Medicine Distinction from Society of Hospital Medicine (SHM); appointed to Ethics Committee at Society of General Internal Medicine; appointed to the SHM Research Committee

• David Hanan, MD
• Ashok Jhaveri, MD
• Elizabeth Murphy, MD
• Michael Murphy, MD
• Rajashree Khera, MD
• Gillian Mendenhall, MD
• Matthew Cerasale, MD, MPH
• Ethan Molitch-Hou, MD, MPH
• Jeanne Farnan, MD, MHPE
• Rebecca Schedin, MPPA
• Madhu Yarlagadda, MD
• Rebecca Wilson, MD

A C C O M P L I S H M E N T S  A N D  H I G H L I G H T S :
In FY21, the IDGH section contributed immensely to the University of Chicago's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Emily Landon, MD, Stephen Weber, MD and Dr. Pisano played key roles in pandemic planning and implementation for UCM as members of the Hospital Incident Command System (HICS) team. Additionally, Drs. Landon and Weber were influential in developing the plans for the State of Illinois. Jon Lio, MD and Maika McNulty, MD managed the callback program for COVID-19 positive outpatients and Jessica Ridgway, MD supervised the safe clearance of patients under investigation (PUI) for COVID-19 on the inpatient services early in the pandemic. Dr. Pisano oversaw the program to administer EUA approved monoclonal antibodies to outpatients with symptomatic COVID-19 who were at risk for severe disease. Other faculty members, advanced practice providers, and fellows were involved in clinical care, including the management of COVID-19 patients, as well as continuing to provide care for the other patients through the consultative services.

During the rapid implementation of the COVID-19 response at the Medical Center, IDGH contributed to the prioritization of patients for COVID-19 vaccination, always mindful of the minority populations on the South Side who were disproportionately affected by the pandemic. The Section joined the COVID-19 Prevention Network (CoVPN) to conduct the Moderna mRNA 1273 vaccine study and remdesivir trials with Kate Mullane, DO as PI. This site was highly successful with enrollment and retention, especially with racial and ethnic minority populations. In collaboration with the Emergency Medicine, the Section was able to maintain HIV screening volumes during the COVID-19 pandemic. John Schneider, MD led the COVID-19 preparedness efforts at the 55th Street Howard Brown Clinic and continues to be involved with community engagement.

In FY21, IDGH continued to provide outstanding consultative services 24/7 to ensure optimal and timely management of serious infectious diseases 4 services: General Infectious Diseases, Immunocompromised Host, and 2 Advanced Practice consult services). The Section maintained the Outpatient Antibiotic Therapy Program, a joint effort between the Antimicrobial Stewardship Program, Pharmacy and the Section, that includes follow up of patients seen in consultation who are discharged on IV antibiotic therapy. Under the direction of Dr. Pisano, ASP continues to make great contributions to the medical center by assuring appropriate antimicrobial use at UCM, not only through day to day review of antibiotic usage, but also innovative education efforts aimed at both physicians and patients. Under the direction of Dr. Landon, the Infection Control Program continues to meet all its goals with respect to hand hygiene, central line associated bloodstream infections, and catheter associated UTIs, and continues to combat C. difficile infection in the hospital. These accomplishments contribute significantly to the UCM’s perennial A rating from the Leapfrog Group.

Within the Section, the Chicago Center for HIV Elimination (John Schneider and David Pitrak, co-directors) provides care for HIV-infected patients, as well as screening, prevention education treatment for pediatric HIV patients who are transitioning to adult care and post-partum care for HIV-infected women and their exposed children. With continuous funding from the CPHI since 2011, Dr. Pitrak continued to focus his efforts on expanded HIV testing and linkage to care (X-TLC) for disproportionately affected populations in healthcare settings at UCM and at 12 other sites on the South and West Sides of Chicago. Drs. Pitrak, Schneider, and Rosebush (Peds ID) serve as co-PIs for the new CPHI-funded South Side Health Home (SSH2). Dr. Mai Pho’s HCV testing also continued to expand while also directing Linkage to care efforts.

In FY21, the Section’s research portfolio continued to expand totaling over $12M. New awards include Dr. Schneider’s NIH U2 to develop a Methodology and Advanced Analytics Resource Center (MAARC) to investigate opioid use disorder within justice contexts, and a R01 focused on IHEP intervention models for young black MSM. In COVID-19 related research, Dr. Mullane continued as PI of the NH’s sponsored Medema COVID-19 vaccine study, and will follow vaccine recipients and their immune status for 25 months. She will continue to pursue novel antiviral therapies for COVID-19, in addition to continuing her trials of new therapies for immune-compromised patients. Drs. Pho and Schneider received a $5 million grant for “Community Network-driven COVID-19 Testing of Vulnerable Populations in the Central US” (C3) that aims to implement and evaluate a COVID-19 testing approach that combines social network testing with community developed COVID-19 public health messages. Anna Hotton, PhD received federal funding to model the impact of social determinants of health on COVID-19 transmission and mortality to understand health inequities. Renslow Shneider, MD received an award from HRSA to conduct HIV-COVID-19 training sessions in the 10 state MATEC region.

In the educational arena, IDGH faculty presented at a number of UCHM town hall meetings and to the Board of Directors related to COVID-19 and the vaccines. Dr. Pisano and Dr. Schrantz were key faculty for ECHO-Chicago, COVID-19 in Adults, engaging with hundreds of participants biweekly over the course of 15 months to discuss the evolving management of COVID-19. The Wuhan University Medical Education Reform (WUMER) Project, Renslow Shneider, MD, Director and Associate Director, Jon Lio, MD is now in its eleventh year, continues to load faculty development, undergraduate curriculum improvement, and residency training at Wuhan University. Over sixty UC faculty members and trainees have visited Wuhan University to participate in the program. This international collaboration has resulted in the publication of 38 papers and one book on medical education reform at Wuhan University. In addition, the WUMER Project has managed a resident exchange with the Peking Union Medical College Hospital in Beijing for the past 5 years involving the departments of Surgery, Medicine, and Pediatrics. Since 2019, the International Medical Educators Program (IMEP) has trained 20 graduate medical education directors in China from Wuhan University, Sun Yat Sen, and the Peking Union Medical College Hospital annually.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS:
- Mai Pho, MD - Named to the Population and Public Health Approaches to HIV/AIDS Study Section, Center for Scientific Review
- Emily Landon, MD - Received an honorary doctoral degree from Augusta University for her national recognition for prevention efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Drs. Jean Luc Benoit, Kathleen Mullane, David Pitrak, Kenneth Pursell, and Stephen Weber, MD. Named as 2021 Top Doctors by Chicago magazine
- Dr. Jennifer Landon at a press conference with Governor J.B. Pritzker and Mayor Lori Lightfoot
- Mayor Lori Lightfoot and Mayor Lori Lightfoot
- Mayor Lori Lightfoot

On July 1, 2021, Jennifer Pisano, MD, associate professor of medicine, assumed interim leadership of the Section of Infectious Disease & Global Health (IDGH) following the retirement of David Pitrak, MD who served as chief for 19 years. Dr. Pisano has broad expertise in all areas of infectious diseases, and serves in key leadership roles within the University of Chicago Medicine (UCM), including medical director of the Antimicrobial Stewardship Program (AS). Dr. Pisano received her MD at Rush Medical College in 2005 and completed her internal medicine residency, infectious diseases fellowship and advanced fellowship training in infectious diseases/transplant infectious diseases at the University of Chicago. She is a graduate of the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) Leadership Program, one of 30 ID physicians invited to participate in the inaugural IDSA Leadership Institute training program. Dr. Pisano’s research is focused on leveraging the electronic medical record to optimize antibiotic prescribing and identify high-impact strategies for infection prevention and interventions. She served on the Antimicrobial Stewardship Committee for the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America and as the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America’s liaison for American Transplantation Society’s white paper on antimicrobial stewardship. She has published nearly 3 dozen papers and books chapter.
Under the direction of Arlene Chapman, MD, the Section of Nephrology continues its multidisciplinary mission of excellence in clinical care, education and scholarly activity. The Section’s dialysis units have been recognized for quality of patient care by the CMS star-rating system with the Woodlawn outpatient dialysis unit led by Mary Hammes, MD, and the Kenwood unit led by Bharathi Reddy, MD, receiving 4 out of 5 stars. The Kenwood Home Dialysis led by Orly Kohn, MD, received 5 stars marking the first time a home dialysis unit has been star rated. The Nephrology ambulatory clinic team was recognized by the Healthcare Heroes Recognition Program for its stellar performance on the Press Ganey Patient Experience metrics. Inpatient dialysis treatments continue to climb, averaging 645 intermittent hemodialysis treatments/month and 312 continuous renal replacement treatments/month. This increase in treatment number represents the overall increase in patient acuity, ICU admissions and the growth of the trauma center at UCM.

In FY21, three new faculty joined the Section at the rank of assistant professor, Samantha Gunning, MD is focusing on advanced chronic kidney disease to facilitate patients receiving home dialysis care and is completing her MPH with a specific focus on acute kidney injury in the setting of advanced cardiopulmonary life support; Sambhavi Krishnamoorthy, MD is improving access to transplant education in CKD 4 and CKD 5 patients with highlighting the benefits of preemptive living kidney transplantation; Tousif Kyosi, MD is focused on noninvasive monitoring of kidney transplant injury and studying long term outcomes of multi-organ transplant recipients.

Within the clinical programs, the Section continued to provide outstanding inpatient kidney care to patients with cancer, heart and liver problems with excellent patient outcomes for 30 day survival and discharge-to-home that are significantly better than the national average. Kidney transplants in FY21 increased 54% compared to FY20 with living donors increasing from 19 to 29 and deceased donors increasing from 73 to 113. In new initiatives, Dr. Samantha Gunning is leading a Transitional Care Unit, providing tailored treatments for patients new to dialysis, with more frequent provider interaction and a patient-centric education curriculum. Working with the Primary Care Group and Gastroiatrics, Drs. Gunning and Bharathi Reddy have begun a targeted program geared towards patients with late stage chronic kidney disease (CKD4 and CKD5).

The Section’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic was noteworthy. Several of faculty and fellows volunteered for inpatient floor and ICU COVID-19 coverage with privileges being given to advanced fellows. Special attention was given to the care of transplant patients and the placement of patients requiring dialysis. Updated best practices for renal ICU patients and urine microscopy were detailed and quickly communicated. During the pandemic, the outpatient dialysis providers continued to work directly with patients who arrived at the units from the community three times a week.

The Section of Nephrology is proud of its innovative bench, translational and patient oriented investigations in polycystic kidney disease, acute kidney injury, epithelial cell transport, growth, and gene expression, and the pathophysiology of kidney stone formation. Hatim Hassan, MD, PhD continues his NIH funded work focused on elucidating the molecular mechanisms regulating intestinal oxalate transport and developing a novel drug delivery system to enable an oral peptide-based drug for kidney stones. Dr. Chapman continued her investigations on identifying biomarkers in PKD. New in FY21 was an institutional CTSA pilot award to Megan Prochaska, MD to investigate how bariatric surgery leads to increased kidney stone risk.

The Nephrology Fellowship Program (Anna Zisman, MD – Program Director) successfully recruited four outstanding fellows for FY22, including trainees from the Department’s residency program. Other educational highlights include the receipt of a new U2C, N2L3 Nephrology Urology and Hematology Training Program Award that includes six Chicago institutions with funding for 5 predoctoral and 5 postdoctoral positions, starting July 1st, 2021. Dr. Hassan received funding for 9 summer research fellowships from the Biological Sciences Collegiate Division to support students interested in conducting 10 weeks of research in pathophysiology, biology, and bioenergetics of renal diseases under the supervision of a faculty mentor.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS:

- Arlene Chapman, MD - Recipient of the Lillian Jean Kaplan International Prize for excellence and leadership in Polycystic Kidney Disease
- Hatim Hassan, MD, PhD - Selected as one of the Illinois Science and Technology Coalition’s “Researchers to Know” under the category of “Fighting Disease” for his research on oxalate and kidney stone formation in relation to gut bacteria
- Michelle Josephson, MD - Elected council member of the American Society of Nephrology
- Ben Ko, MD - Joining the ASN’s Workforce and Training Committee
- Tipu Purii, MD, PhD - Appointed as UCHS’s Associate Chief Medical Officer for University of Chicago Medicine
- Bharathi Reddy, MD - Elected to the Board of Directors for ESRD Network 10
- Nicola Stankus, MD - Joined the ASN’s Nephrologists Transforming Dialysis Safety – Human Factors Workgroup
- Anna Zisman, MD - Recipient of the BID Distinguished Leader in Program Innovation Award
Led by Gökhan Mutlu, MD, the Section of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine (P/CC) continued its excellence in patient care, education, and research. Highlights from FY21 include the addition of 4 physician-scientists and an interventional pulmonary expert; improved standing in the US News and World Report 2021-22 Best Hospitals ranking at 845, and significant growth in research funding. In addition, the Section made substantial contributions during COVID-19 pandemic with expanded MICU services as well as significant research and scholarly work.

In FY21, five faculty at the rank of assistant professor joined the Section. Ayodeji Adegunsoye, MD studies the role of genetics in interstitial lung disease to improve disease classification and clinical outcomes. William P. Parker, MD focused his work on machine learning and artificial intelligence to create a fair and efficient allocation system particularly for scarce healthcare resources. He has recently successfully applied his skills to resource allocation in COVID-19. Nathan Schoettler, MD, PhD utilizes his expertise in immunology and genetics/omics to study the role of T-cells in asthma. Ayodeji Adegunsoye, MD is an expert in interventional pulmonary with interest in solitary pulmonary nodules. David Wu, MD, PhD conducts cutting edge basic research by combining cellular metabolism with flow sensing to understand the mechanisms of vascular dysfunction and disease.

In response to increased number of COVID-19 hospitalizations, the UCH created four COVID-19 Co-Resident ICUs with a total bed capacity of 48. Section faculty and fellows staffed these ICUs in addition to the MICU. In order to meet the demand on clinical service, fellows’ research time and faculty’s clinical census in MICU has grown by 50% necessitating the initiation of a third MICU service to support the two MICUs. In addition, P/CC faculty participated in committees that were formed in response to COVID-19 including committees that addressed the allocation of scarce resources, medical and non-medical management of COVID-19, achieving equity in vaccinators, and assessment for COVID-19-related sequelae after discharge and their management.

Clinically, outpatient clinical volume has recovered from COVID-19 and grown further in part due to a continued telehealth visits. With the recruitment of Dr. Wagh the Interventional Pulmonary Program co-led by Septimiu Murgu, MD and Kyle Hogarth, MD continues to be the largest program in Chicago area. Under the leadership of Dr. Wagh, the Section established the virtual Solitary Pulmonary Nodule Clinic to increase patient access. Under the leadership of Mary Straw, MD, the Interstitial Lung Disease (ILD) Program is recognized as a Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation Care Center and remains one of the top programs nationally. On the inpatient side, the census in MICU has grown by 50% necessitating the initiation of a third MICU service to support the two MICU teams. Lastly a new clinic and home sleep program was established in the River East clinic.

Dr. Wu received the R00 portion of his K99/R00 award to study the role of endothelial metabolism in proinflammatory blood types such as seen in sepsis and acute lung injury. Dr. Schoettler received a K08 award to elucidate the role of genetic variation in regulating the expression of genes in specific lung cell types such as T-cells that play a critical role in asthma. Bhakti Patel, MD was awarded a K23 to apply precision medicine to identify patients who are most likely to benefit from early mobilization and elucidate how it can be implemented successfully to extend the benefits of early mobilization to patients at risk for long-term disability. Nicolaus Dulin, PhD, received an R01 grant to study the role anoctamin-1/TMEM16A in TGF-β-induced proliferation and differentiation of lung fibroblasts to myofibroblasts. Steve White, MD received an R21 study to elucidate the IL-6 high phenotype in childhood asthma. In a collaborative work between U Chicago, Northwestern and UIC, Dr. Mutlu received the Chicago Biomedical Consortium Award to study the mechanisms that predispose individuals with severe COVID-19 to the development of pulmonary fibrosis.

On the educational front, the Section’s faculty continue to lead in teaching and training. The T22 training program co-led by Dr. Spoerl and Julian Solway, MD entered its 36th year. The pulmonary and critical care fellowship program director, Jason Poston, MD received the Favorite Faculty Award from the Pittaker School of Medicine graduating students for the ninth year in a row. The Section continues to recruit outstanding fellows into its three fellowship programs: pulmonary and critical care medicine, sleep medicine and interventional pulmonology. The majority of graduates of the pulmonary and critical care fellowship program continue to remain in academic medicine.

• Yun Fang, PhD - Selected for the B. Lowell Lange Vascular Biology Lectureship at the University of Toronto
• Kyle Hogarth, MD - Received the ACP Distinquished Chest Educator designation; appointed to the Medical and Scientific Advisory Committee of Alpha One Foundation
• Septimiu Murgu, MD - Served as Chair, CHEST education committee, and appointed as president-elect of American Association for Bronchology & Interventional Pulmonology
• Julian Solway, MD - Launched the ITM’s The New Normal (TN) campaign; elected to serve as Treasurer, Association for Clinical and Translational Science; recipient of the Department of Medicine’s 2021 Distinguished Service Award.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS:
The Section of Rheumatology, led by Marcus Clark, MD, continued its tradition of clinical excellence, innovative research and outstanding clinical training focused on understanding autoimmunity with the goal of improving the care of those afflicted with diseases such as lupus, rheumatoid arthritis, and vasculitis. In the past year, Section faculty contributed to major advancements in the field of immunology as well as COVID-19 research that have the potential to translate into cutting edge treatments for those suffering from autoimmune diseases and COVID-19.

The Section continues to build on robust and integrated programs in lupus (Drs. Kichul Ko and Kimberly Trotter), polymyositis and interstitial lung disease (Drs. Iazsmin Ventura and James Curran) and inflammatory arthritis including an ultrasound center (Reem Jan, MD). The clinical efforts in polymyositis are complemented by a translational investigative program led by Vladimir Liarski, MD to understand the in situ immune response driving local muscle damage. A newly evolving area in rheumatology is the broad spectrum of autoimmune and inflammatory complications that arise from immunotherapy for cancer, immune-related adverse events (irAEs). This effort is led by Pankti Reid, MD who has developed dedicated irAE clinics and a streamlined inpatient irAE consult service. These clinical service lines are complemented by clinical trials which offer patients access to novel therapies for difficult to treat diseases especially lupus and irAEs.

The Section continues to be a highly productive research enterprise with nearly $9M in extramural funding and several high-impact publications in Immunity, Nature Immunology and the Journal of Clinical Investigation. New grants in FY21 included an NIH R01 awarded to Dr. Clark to study the role of CXC84 in immunoglobulin light chain recombination as well as an Alliance for Lupus Research Award to investigate in situ adaptive immunity in lupus tubulo-interstitial inflammation. Fotini Gounari, PhD also received an NIH R01 to explore the epigenetic mechanisms of carcinogenesis by commensal viruses.

The Section of Rheumatology made several notable contributions to the understanding of the immune response to COVID-19 and to the role of the immune system in disease. This work is supported by several new grants. Two efforts are particularly notable. Dr. Wilson, in an extensive series of elegant studies, demonstrated how infection with SARS-CoV-2 can select for a humoral response largely driven by non-neutralizing viral epitopes. In contrast, vaccines are much more effective in driving effective, neutralizing immunity. These data provide a compelling rationale for vaccine use even in those previously infected with SARS-CoV-2. Also, this last year Dr. Reid launched a phase two clinical trial of low dose tocilizumab in the treatment of COVID-19 patients (COVIDOSE2) to determine if early use can mitigate the subsequent cytokine release syndrome.

The Section’s fellowship program has been selected for the American College of Rheumatology’s Fellowship Training Award for FY22, for the 6th time in 7 years, in recognition of the outstanding clinical and academic quality and success of the training program. In other educational initiatives, Dr. Reid is piloting the irAE teaching clinic and adjunct medical education research through University of Chicago’s Medical Education Research, Innovation, Teaching, and Scholarship (MERITS) Program. The Section continues to be the home of the NIH Medical Scientist Training Program, now in its 55th year.

Kimberly Trotter, MD - Recipient of the 2020 DOM Clinical Productivity Award for Patient Visits.

Pankti Reid, MD - Recognized as one of eleven rheumatologists on a national committee dedicated to studying rheumatic irAEs (“RADIOS”).

Iazsmin Ventura, MD - Appointed as a member of the International Myositis Assessment & Clinical Study Group.
Internal Medicine Residents

2022 Chief Residents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>PGY LEVEL</th>
<th>MEDICAL SCHOOL ATTENDED</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pais Mintz</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>Johns Hopkins University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathleen Ward</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Jacobs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plane Ouyang</td>
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Third Year Residents

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<tr>
<td>Mary Korsz</td>
<td>III</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juan Albin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Susan Anderson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jessica Shapland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Claire Slagden</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hammond Dumas</td>
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<td>Lauren He</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rachael Kusma</td>
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<td>Dan Kerr</td>
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<td>Nathan Korng</td>
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<td>Kimberly Lu</td>
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<td>Chelsea Smith</td>
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<td>Mitha Iran</td>
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<tr>
<td>Albira Eaker</td>
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<td>Benjamyn Nazarat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joseph Richett</td>
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<td>Meng Wu</td>
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Second Year Residents

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<tr>
<td>Anne Martin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Clark</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matthew Cofman</td>
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<td>Mia Romo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dylan Douglas</td>
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<td>Nakul Gupta</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chris Khakani</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meit Kwonshitzky</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashley Ly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lian Zhao</td>
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First Year Residents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>PGY LEVEL</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tim Alson</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Chukwurah Amekwe</td>
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<td>Naderi Ibrahimi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Erika Himmel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nada El-Tarazi</td>
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Physician Scientist Development Program

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<td>Kem Kayden</td>
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<td>Wilden Connin</td>
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<td>Jan Carvone</td>
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<tr>
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Dermatology Residents

Second Year Residents

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<tr>
<td>Erin Stodd</td>
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<td>Erin Blier</td>
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<td>Jake Lutarno</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marina Carolina (nee Granja)</td>
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First Year Residents

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<tr>
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Emergency Medicine Residents

Third Year Residents

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<td>Ryan DiCapri</td>
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<td>Anahita Foz</td>
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<td>Kristen Lewis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corfia Johnson-Soro</td>
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<td>University of Colorado</td>
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Committee Highlights

Women’s Committee

The Department of Medicine’s Women’s Committee serves as an important mechanism for networking, mentorship, professional development awards nomination and advocacy for our female faculty. With leadership from Julie Oyler, MD, the Committee is comprised of women from multiple sections within the Department, all of whom are amazing leaders, scientists, clinicians and educators in their own right.

The DOM Women’s Committee enjoyed several successes in FY21:
• Published two issues of the “Women at the Forefront” newsletter, highlighting the accomplishments of women faculty/trainees and added a #SheForShe and book recommendation section.
• Conducted a workshop on “Mentorship in Medicine,” featuring Abby Spencer, MD MS (FAAP), Vice-Chair of Education, Professor of Medicine, and Director of the Academy of Educators at Washington University School of Medicine
• Conducted a workshop on “Gender Equity in Medicine: Working from the Ground Up” featuring Jennifer Lukela, MD, Associate Director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program at the University of Michigan
• Received honorable mention for the NIH Prize for Enhancing Faculty Gender Diversity in Biomedical and Behavioral Science
• Published on the Committee’s work nominating and increasing the percentage of women receiving local awards entitled “#SheForShe: Increasing Nominations Significantly Increased Institutional Awards for Deserving Academic Women”, Press VG, Husaini-Schaffitz M, Oyler J J Gen Intern Med, 2021
• Hosted Ngozi O. Ezike, MD, Director, Illinois Department of Public Health, as the Women’s Committee’s Grand Round Speaker for 2021, who spoke on “Hurricane COVID and Lessons (Re)Learned”

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee

The mission of the Department of Medicine Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee is to promote compositional diversity through the recruitment, retention, mentorship and promotion of students, house staff, and faculty traditionally underrepresented in medicine, to foster an inclusive climate free of harmful bias and to assist in the delivery of equitable health care practices for patients and communities. With leadership from Monica Vela, MD, accomplishments in FY21 included enhanced education and awareness of DEI issues via presentations at various grand rounds and lectures, and through the creation of three new sub-committees focused on safe space, inclusive pedagogy and abilities and disabilities, increased relationship building and belonging; addressed race-based and culturally sensitive healthcare delivery and contributed heavily to scholarship on DEI. Also noteworthy were enhanced recruitment and outcome efforts for trainees. In FY21, the Department recruited a diverse housestaff to its residency programs. Twenty-five percent of the interns in the internal medicine residency program, 44% of the interns in the emergency medicine residency program and 18% of sub-specialty fellows identify as underrepresented in medicine (UiM). The Committee partnered with other institutional leaders to advocate for blinding USMLE scores in screening and matching candidates to residency programs and for the continued support of UM trainees at all programs.

In FY21 activities, the DEI Committee had a commanding presence at the virtual annual medical education conference of the Student National Medical Association, the national Latino Medical Student Association conference and the Medical Organization for Latino Advancement. The June 2021 Juneteenth demonstration was led by Drs. Abdulfatah Pratt, and Edwin McDonald, Mr. James Williams (Executive Director of Diversity, Inclusion and Equity in the Urban Health Initiative) and Symphony Fletcher (PSOM Student). The DEI hosted Monticola Lipsom MD, a national leader in medical education and Vice Dean for Education at Columbia University, as the 2021 DEI Grand Rounds speaker who spoke on “Anti-Racism is a Must in Academic Medicine”.

The DEI Committee published several high impact publications during the past academic year:

Please visit medicine.uchicago.edu for a full version of the 2021 Department of Medicine Annual Report including select faculty publications and FY21 Sponsored Research Awards.

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