In 2001, a committee of Department of Medicine leaders, providers and staff designed two walls in the Green 5 hallway to represent the Department of Medicine’s past and present leaders and staff. An unveiling celebration was held on August 14, 2001. Dr. William Keane, then the current Chair of Medicine, and Dr. Thomas Stillman, Rheumatologist, initiated the unveiling of the wall representing the history of the Department’s leadership and the wall of Department of Medicine faculty photos.

Over 22 years there have been changes to the two walls including department leadership, current providers (APP photographs were added in 2017), and new divisions added.

As we enter 2023 there is an opportunity to refresh and update the Green 5 hallway walls/lobby. A committee has been established to undertake the vision we have for the transformation of this space. A big thank you to our colleagues, Drs. Allyson Hart, Kurt Hessen, Ryan Jelinek, and Megan Shaughnessy together with HHS Arts Program Coordinator Wenda Ballinger, for their willingness to help us determine how to accomplish our goals with feedback received from surveying the providers. Watch for more updates as they become relevant to the work ahead.

While we are still in the planning phase, we seek support from providers and staff. Among the top priorities is to commission a piece of artwork on the leadership wall which reflects the values of our department. This artwork will replace the photos of past leaders of the department.

If you would like to be a part of the new phase for the G5 refresh any gift amount is welcome. (Donors contributing $250 or more will have their name added to a plaque which will be displayed near the piece of art.) You can donate online or by scanning this QR code provided.

www.hennepinhealthcare.org/designategift
Write in “Fund #546 -Green 5 Refresh”
**Staff Updates**

**Welcome to the Department of Medicine**
Dr. Elizabeth Goelz, General Internal Medicine Division, November 19, 2022

Dr. Korkor Sackey, Hospital Medicine Division, December 5, 2022
Delphine Murzello, N.P., General Internal Medicine Division, December 5, 2022
Dr. Lauren Graber, Addiction Medicine Division, November 21, 2022
Dr. Erik Anderson, General Internal Medicine Division, December 19, 2022

Dr. Alexander Bryan, General Internal Medicine Division, November 7, 2022

**Departures from the Department of Medicine**
Dr. Erica Weiss, General Internal Medicine Division, December 31, 2021

Dr. Bertram Kasiske, Nephrology Division, December 31, 2022

**Provider Retirement from the Department of Medicine**
Dr. Mariam Anwar, General Internal Medicine Division, December 31, 2022

**Rheumatology Division Updates**

The Rheumatology Division welcomed the return of Dr. Rawad Nasr to Hennepin Healthcare in October in the position of Rheumatology Division Director. Dr. Nasr’s work includes both ambulatory visits and resuming inpatient consultations with fellows from the University of Minnesota.

We also welcome the return of Dr. Linh Ngo to the Rheumatology Division in January 3, 2023, and the addition of Dr. Saud ABAALKHAIL who will join the division in the summer of 2023, following completion of his Rheumatology fellowship in Miami, Florida. With his arrival, we will once again have a full Rheumatology Division!

**The Department of Medicine has been fortunate to have Dr. Abo Mosa on the Rheumatology staff through the end of 2022, and Dr. Ralph Yachoui for a limited contractual time. They have been critical to our mission in Rheumatology and have been terrific colleagues at Hennepin Healthcare. A big thank you to Dr. David Hilden for having stepped in to lead the Rheumatology Division during transitions within the division. Dr. Hilden was instrumental in the successful recruitment and rebuilding of the division. It is with much appreciation to have had his energy, leadership, and unwavering willingness to step up when needed.**

**Geriatric Medicine and Palliative Medicine Divisions**

Effective January 1, 2023, the Department of Medicine recognizes the Geriatric Medicine Division and the Palliative Medicine Division as two stand-alone divisions. They are currently joined as one division with Dr. Mariam Anwar and Dr. David Flemig as co-directors.

Dr. Mariam Anwar is the Division Director of the Geriatric Medicine Division and Dr. David Flemig is the Division Director of the Palliative Medicine Division. They both continue to utilize their strong leadership skills in their new director role.
**Office of Education, Mentorship and Scholarship (OEMS)**

*From Dr. Mark Linzer, M. Thomas Stillman Endowed Chair and Director of Education, Mentorship and Scholarship; Director, Office of Professional Worklife*

For questions, support or if you have exciting scholarship announcements, news, or information you’d like to share, please contact Renee Marrero at renee.marrero@hcm.ed.org. We look forward to hearing from you! Below are highlights of exciting scholarship activities from the past quarter.

We are thinking of (re)starting a **Writing Club** to share strategies for improving your writing, reducing writer’s block, submitting papers and grants, and other aspects of scholarly writing. If interested, let us know please. You can email renee.marrero@hcm.ed.org expressing your interest. If there is enough interest, we will start a Writing Club in spring 2023.

Below are highlights of exciting scholarship activities from the past quarter.

**Department of Medicine Scholarship: Year-in-Review**
The amazing scholars in the Department of Medicine have once again had a stellar year of accomplishments!

- Nearly 300 publications
- 19 researchers received 57 awards
- 33 of those awards are new (as opposed to amendments or continuations)
- ~$34 million total from all awards

If you’d like to become more involved in research and scholarly work, please reach out to Renee Marrero at renee.marrero@hcm.ed.org to set up a time to meet with Dr. Linzer to discuss.

**Department of Medicine 2022 Research Excellence Award**

*Dr. Sandra Japuntich* was recently honored with the 2022 Department Research Excellence Award. Dr. Japuntich has a stellar track record of scholarship, mentoring, funding and leadership. She is an investigator on five ongoing NIH grants, including being Principal Investigator on three or co-Principal Investigator or collaborator on two. She has 50 peer reviewed journal publications, including numerous ones as first or senior author in respected journals and is involved in numerous regional and national review and planning committees. Dr. Japuntich has a long-standing focus on health equity, including a new project looking at the effect of care navigators to connect Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) patients to smoking cessation treatment. The project is part of a newly funded center grant from the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) focused on reducing the effect of racism on cardiovascular disease.

**Department of Medicine Seed Grants 2022-2023**

We are excited to announce five Department of Medicine Seed Grant awards that have been granted as part of the 2022-2023 cycle. The Seed Grant program was created to support Department of Medicine members (full or part-time, MD, DO, PhD or APP) in pursuing scholarly activities.

Below is the list of the principal investigators and their important and impactful projects:

*Dr. Michelle Carlson*, Cardiology Division: Improved Echocardiographic Reporting to Guide Appropriateness of Clinical Care in Valvular Heart Disease

*Dr. Haeshik S. Gorr*, General Internal Medicine Division: Retrospective Analysis of Racial Disparities in Screening and Adherence Rates of Low Dose Computed Tomography (LDCT) at Hennepin Healthcare since 2014

*Dr. Amber Lindsay*, General Internal Medicine Division: Racial-ethnic Disparities in Readmission and Death Among Patients with Substance Use Disorders

*Dr. Christopher Knapp*, Nephrology Division: Pilot study of the effect of depressive symptoms on kidney related outcomes during the transition from CKD5 to ESRD

*Xin Piao, APRN, CNP and Brian Imdieke, APRN, CNP*, General Internal Medicine Division: Improving Perioperative Care through a Standardized Preoperative Assessment Documentation Template
Office of Education, Mentorship and Scholarship (OEMS) Continued

Department of Medicine Research Conferences

Dr. Megan Shaughnessy presented the Department of Medicine Research Conference in October on her study “Parasitic Infections in Immunocompromised Patients at Hennepin Healthcare System,” which was the first project funded by the recently created Department of Medicine Seed Grants.

Dr. Andrew Busch will present the January 11, 2023, 12:00-1:00pm, Research Conference discussing “A Decade of Lessons Learned While Building a Clinical Research Portfolio.” If you can join us, please contact renee.marrero@hcmed.org for an invitation with the Teams link.

We are hoping to increase the frequency of research conference to monthly for the 2023 year.

2023/2024 University of Minnesota Promotion Cycle

There was a great response from those interested in pursuing promotion in the 2023/2024 University of Minnesota promotion cycle.

Acknowledgements, Recognition, and Awards

Dr. Arti Prasad, Chief Strategic Development Officer and Dr. Richard Printon, Medical Director of Integrative Health and Wellness, were recognized in the December 27, 2022 Scanner for their work on the NO PAIN Minnesota, a first-of-its-kind statewide resource map to help patients, providers, and health insurers find an array of options to manage pain without opioids, from acupuncture to chiropractic massage, from psychotherapy to movement therapy. With a generous grant from Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), Drs. Prasad and Printon took a rigorous approach to building a resource that helps people manage pain without opioids.

Dr. Woubeshet Ayenew was a participant in a CBS News segment on December 6, 2022, that focused on his mentee, Hugh Burke, a medical student at the University of Minnesota Medical School who wrote a children’s book, "The Way We Play." Dr. Ayenew, as a medical student advisor, recommends to his medical students to do something different that will help them to enrich empathy. Dr. Ayenew says he endorses the book and it’s a medium he understands, to translate this one into East African languages.

Dr. Iesha Galloway-Gillian was on MPR with Angela Davis on November 29, 2022, discussing pre-diabetes, diabetes, and the interface with obesity.

Dr. Allyson Hart has been selected to be this year’s recipient of the Hennepin Healthcare Medical Staff Honors award for Outstanding Contributions in Academics at the Hennepin Healthcare Medical Staff Meeting held on November 17, 2022, at Hennepin Healthcare.

Dr. Sandra Japuntich was the recipient of the 2022 Department of Medicine Research Excellence Award at the University of Minnesota Fall Faculty Reception ceremony at the University of Minnesota Campus Club on November 10, 2022.
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS MINNESOTA CHAPTER MEETING

The American College of Physicians (ACP) held their 2022 Minnesota Chapter Meeting on October 28, 2022, at the Minneapolis Convention Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Dr. David Hilden, Minnesota Chapter Governor, hosted the meeting with a large Hennepin Healthcare presence.

At this year’s meeting, Hennepin Healthcare had the distinguishing honor of having two faculty members receive Chapter awards. Dr. Ellen Coffey was selected as the Chapter Laureate Award winner for 2022. Dr. Haylee Veazey was selected for the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Award for her work on transgender health care.

The Department of Medicine was also well represented in the Associates Poster Competition that included:
- Dr. Nahdiya (Safia) Ali (PGY1), Spontaneous Splenic Rupture as the First Manifestation of Mantle Cell Lymphoma.
- Dr. Talal Almasri (PGY1), Aortic Mural Thrombus Embolization as a Manifestation of Essential Thrombocythemia.
- Dr. Momen Alsayed (PGY2), I Broke my Heart in Connecticut; A Case of Lyme Carditis with High Degree AV Block.
- Dr. Zachary Anderson (PGY1), An Uncommon Connection: Retroperitoneal Pancreatic Pseudocyst with Fistulization to the Portal and Superior Mesenteric Veins.
- Dr. Maroun Chedid (PGY1), Retinal Artery Cholesterol Plaque of Unclear Origin Causing Recurrent Amaurosis Fugax.
- Dr. Megan Conlon (PGY3), Miliary Opacities: It’s not always TB.
- Dr. Christine Grech (PGY1), Blast Crisis: Acutely Ill Presentation of B-Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia in a 46-Year-Old Man.
- Dr. Spencer Goble (PGY2), Statin Prescribing Patterns Based on FIB-4 as a Non-invasive Assessment of Liver Function.

The Department of Medicine PGY3 residents, chief residents, and former HCMC residents on their Fellowship Match.

DR. ELIZABETH WENDT, CDC Epidemic Intelligence Service, Atlanta, Georgia

Dr. Mason Hinke (PGY1), Anaplasmosis Presenting as Atrial Fibrillation with Rapid Ventricular Response.
Dr. Simranjit Kahlon (PGY1), Recurrent Tricuspid Valve Replacement Due to Continuous IVDU-Related Endocarditis.
Dr. Mohammed Khalid (PGY2), Pain in Z-Pak: A Case of Diffuse Pan-Bronchiolitis (DPB) in a Kidney Transplant Patient.
Dr. Ameya Kumar (PGY1), Disseminated Gonococcal Infection as a Cause of Polyarthritis in a 61-Year-Old Male.
Dr. Sanjoyita Mallick (PGY1), HHFrEF Requiring Intravenous Inotropic Therapy via PICC in the Setting of MRSA Bacteremia.
Dr. Abdilahi Mohamoud (PGY1), Syncope: A Sole Presenting Symptom of NSTEMI in an Elderly Patient.
Dr. Lizbeth Rondon Rueda (PGY2), Immunotherapies Adverse Effects: A Multidisciplinary Dilemma.
Dr. Abdulsabur Sanni (PGY2), A Waxing and Waning Diagnostic Dilemma; An Atypical Presentation of Post-Transplant Lymphoproliferative Disorder.
Dr. Deepon Sarkar (PGY1), Atropine-Induced Complete Heart Block and Ventricular Asystole: A Paradoxical Response During Dobutamine Stress Testing.
Dr. Benjamin Swart (PGY3), Implementation of an Empiric Ivermectin Treatment Protocol for Patients Receiving High-Dose Corticosteroids for Severe COVID-19.

Dr. Rachel Salz (PGY3), won the Peoples Choice Award for her oral poster, The Eyes Have It, At Any Stage: Considering Ocular Syphilis.

The HCMC Doctors’ Dilemma team:
- Drs. Rachel Salz (PGY3), Roberto Fu (PGY3), Sanjoyita Mallick (PGY1), and Maroun Chedid (PGY1) came in second place to the Abbott Northwestern Hospital team after a very competitive final round.

Resident Fellowship Match

Congratulations to the Department of Medicine PGY3 residents, chief residents, and former HCMC residents on their Fellowship Match.

Dr. Megan Conlon, Pulmonary/Critical Care, Maine Medical Center, Portland, Maine
Dr. Peter Dock, Nephrology, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado
Dr. Jeffrey Hall, Critical Care, Hennepin Healthcare
Dr. Marcela Kuijpers, Rheumatology, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio
Dr. Amber Lindsay, Pulmonary/Critical Care, University of Minnesota

Dr. Evan Lister, Critical Care, Hennepin Healthcare
Dr. Benjamin Sudolcan, Sleep Medicine, University of South Florida Morsani College of Medicine, Tampa, Florida
Dr. Benjamin Swart, Addiction Medicine, University of Minnesota
Dr. Nhat Vo, Nephrology, University of California, Irvine, California
Dr. Elizabeth Wendt, CDC Epidemic Intelligence Service, Atlanta, Georgia
Presentations


Dr. Philippe Nyembo (PGY2) presented two posters, “Impact of adverse social and behavioral determinants of health on in-hospital mortality following an acute atherosclerotic vascular event at a safety new community hospital” and “Understanding aortic disease: Insights from around the globe” at the American Heart Association (AHA) Scientific Sessions in Chicago, Illinois, November 7, 2022.

Dr. Joseph Akambase (PGY1) presented a poster, “Association of clinical characteristics and biopsy findings in a large cohort of NAFLD/NASH from Latin America” at the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) in Washington, DC, November 4-7, 2022.


Dr. Spencer Goble (PGY2) presented two posters, “Spontaneous pancreatic pseudocyst-superior mesenteric vein fistula: A case report” and “Statin utilization as a function of calculated ASCVD risk in HCV-infected patients” at the American College of Gastroenterology (ACG) 2022 in Charlotte, North Carolina, October 24, 2022.

Dr. Greta Kreider Carlson (EM/IM PGY3) presented, “Improvement in mental status after high dose naloxone in the setting of tizanidine poisoning: A case report” at the North American Congress of Clinical Toxicology (NACCT) in San Francisco, California, September 18, 2022.

Grants Awarded

Dr. Jason Baker (PI) on a new study: Optimization of a Behavioral Intervention to Increase Physical Activity in Older Adults Living with HIV, funded by National Institutes of Health, National Institute on Aging and Butler Hospital.

Dr. Ajay Israni (PI) received funding from Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality for the study: New Patient-centered Metric for Transplant Center Report Cards.

Dr. Andrew Harris (PI) on a study: Pre-natal Opioid Exposure Biomarkers Study, funded by the University of Minnesota

Dr. Sandra Japuntich (PI) received funding from National Institutes of Health, National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities and the University of Minnesota for the study: Center for Chronic Disease Reduction and Equity Promotion Across Minnesota (C2DREAM) Project 2: A Pragmatic Trial of Chronic Disease Approaches To Ameliorate Tobacco Related Cardiovascular Disease Health Disparities.

Dr. Mark Linzer (PI) received funding for two projects:
- California AHEC Resiliency Training and Wellbeing Strategies for Healthcare Workers; funded by the State of California and the University of California.
- Optum Institute for Professional Worklife Support.

Dr. Matthew Prekker received funding from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Vanderbilt University Medical Center for the Surveillance of Acutely Ill Adults with Respiratory Viruses, including SARS-CoV-2 (IVY 5) study.

Dr. Jenell Stewart received funding from the National Institutes of Health, National Institute on Drug Abuse and the University of Washington for the Combined Primary Care and Prevention Services for the study Women Who Inject Drugs and Exchange Sex in Seattle, Washington.
JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS/ELECTRONIC PUBLICATIONS


Balin L, Davidson Z, Gross B, Bentwich ME. Healthcare provider’s culture and its impact on end-of-life discussions. *Omega (Westport).* 2022;30228211054322.


Beudeker BBJ, Groothuismink ZMA, van der Eijk AA, Debes JD, Boonstra A. Circulating cytokines reflect the etiology-specific immune environment in cirrhosis and HCC. *Cancers (Basel).* 2022;14(19):4900.


Journal Publications/Electronic Publications


JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS/ELECTRONIC PUBLICATIONS


Journal Publications/Electronic Publications


Walsh MM. Moving medical education beyond the classroom. *Minnesota Physician*. 2022;XXXVI(2).


Published Abstract


Book Chapter

**Journal Publications Online Ahead of Print**


Brandeland MA, Schick A, **White C.** Sorrow on the shoreline. *JAMA Cardiol.* 2022:1-12. [Ahead of print]


**Murray AM.** Vemuri P. Kidney disease and brain health: Current knowledge and next steps. *Am J Kidney Dis.* 2022; S0272-6386(22)00960-X. [Ahead of print]


**Resident Recruitment**

A HUGE thank you to medicine faculty and internal medicine residents who interviewed internal medicine residency applicants. Our Program received over 2400 ERAS applications this year! The interviews were held over ten weeks, meeting with 224 amazing medical students from medical schools across America and the world. Our formal rank list will be submitted to the NRMP in February. Interviews were held virtually again this year and feedback continues to be extremely positive. Applicants felt very welcomed by faculty, residents and coordinators, and were inspired by our deep commitment to education and sustainable care for marginalized patients.

We **TRULY APPRECIATE** your time and dedication to helping us match the next intern class. We work hard to recruit fantastic residents and convince the best to stay on as Hennepin Healthcare faculty or return after fellowships. None of this would be possible without you!

Feel free to email us or stop by to talk about candidates you were particularly impressed with – as always, we welcome your input.

*The Med Ed Team*

---

**Recent Guest Speakers in the Department of Medicine**

December 8, 2022, Medicine Grand Rounds, Panel Discussion with participants from the University of Minnesota included:
- Dr. Andrew Shaffer, Assistant Professor, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Department of Surgery.
- Dr. Ganesh Raveendran, Professor of Medicine, Cardiovascular Division.
- Dr. Rajat Kalra, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Cardiovascular Division.
- Bridget Flynn, Cardiology Nurse Practitioner.

**Dr. Gautam Shroff**, Associate Professor of Medicine, Director, Cardiology Division, and Sr Medical Director, Heart & Vascular Service Line, Hennepin Healthcare, moderated the program titled, “Aortic Valve Replacement: Pearls for Your Practice.”

December 1, 2022, Medicine Grand Rounds, Dr. Stuart Bloom, Associate Professor of Medicine, University of Minnesota Medical School, “From Burnout to Wellness: The Way Forward.”

November 17, 2022, Medicine Grand Rounds, Dr. Kidmealem Zekarias, Department of Endocrinology, Assistant Professor of Medicine, University of Minnesota, “Primary Aldosteronism (PA) in Resistant Hypertension (RH).”

October 13, 2022, Medicine Grand Rounds, The First Annual W. Keith Henry MD Lectureship in Infectious Diseases, Dr. Chase Cannon, Acting Assistant Professor, University of Washington, “Monkeypox 2022: Overview, History and Current State of Affairs.”

---

**Department Administrative Staff Years of Service**

Congratualtions on recognition of years of service in the Department of Medicine:

**Sandra Main** for 22 years of service in the Chair of Medicine office in the Department of Medicine on November 6, 2022.

**Joni Loomer** for 12 years of service in the General Internal Medicine Division in the Department of Medicine on October 20, 2022.

---

**Mark Your Calendars for These Important Dates**

- **Thursday, January 12, 2023**, Department of Medicine New Year's Celebration and Reflection, Elliot Park Hotel, Chestnut Room, 823 5th Avenue S, Minneapolis, 5:00-7:00pm. Appetizers and beverages.
- **Monday, February 6, 2023 to Friday, February 10, 2023**, Resident Wellness Week.
- **Friday March 17, 2023**, Match Day.
- **Friday, June 2, 2023**, Resident Graduation Banquet, Golden Valley Country Club.

---

IM Newsletter is a quarterly publication from the HCMC Department of Medicine. Please forward any inquiries, corrections, comments or items you have for our next issue to: sandra.main@hcmed.org.