RECOGNITION

Saint Louis University Hospital Cancer Program Earns Three-Year Accreditation With Commendation

Citing strong patient outcomes and cancer prevention activities, the Commission on Cancer (CoC) of the American College of Surgeons (ACoS) granted Saint Louis University Hospital a three-year accreditation with commendation. Maintaining the CoC accreditation is a voluntary commitment by a cancer program ensuring patients will have access to a full scope of services required to diagnose, treat, rehabilitate, and support patients with cancer and their families. The accreditation at SLU Hospital is given to programs that comply with all standards and receive a commendation rating for one or more standard. Commendation was given for several areas including: outcomes analysis, compliance with the College of American Pathologists protocols and strong and early detection programs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Falls, Faints and Fracture clinic in diabetes is accepting referrals at Des Peres Hospital starting on the first Thursday in January 2013. This is a collaboration of the Endocrine, Cardiology and Geriatric divisions. Please contact 314-966-9313 for an appointment.

DIVISION OF CARDIOLOGY

The Division of Cardiology is pleased to welcome the return of Richard Lee, M.D., Professor of Surgery to the newly formed Center for Comprehensive Cardiac Care. This is an exciting merging of cardiac medicine and cardiac surgery to form complete inclusive care for the patient with cardiac disease.

Selected Publications and Abstracts from Cardiology


Safety 2012; 35:233-44.

**Hauptman PJ, Schwartz PJ, Gold M, Borggreffe M, Van Veldhuisen DJ, Starling RC, Mann D.** Rationale and study design of the INcrease Of Vagal TonE in Heart Failure Study: INOVATE-HF. Am Heart J 2012;163:954-962.e1


**Patel A, Hauptman P, Lim M, Stolker J.** Clinical cardiologists and investigators disagree on training requirements for performing transcatheter aortic valve replacement. Poster presentation 24th annual scientific sessions of Transcatheter Cardiovascular Therapeutics.

**Lim MJ.** Discussant, lecturer, panel participant, session moderator , Annual Scientific Sessions of Transcatheter Therapeutics.

Teri Bertram, Jane Eckstein and Karen Stocke from the Core ECG Laboratory joined in the SLU Santa Hat 5K Run on Tuesday, December 18, 2012.

**DIVISION OF ENDOCRINOLOGY**

The Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism is now offering the Continuous Glucose Monitoring Sensor (CGMS) in Endocrinology outpatient clinic. This is a device which is inserted subcutaneously in clinic and senses interstitial blood glucose readings continuously for 3-5 days. After removal, it is downloaded using a computer based software and reports are used to adjust treatment. Indications for using this device include type 1 or type 2 diabetes with high A1c, significant glycemic variability and inadequate self-monitoring, hypoglycemia, hypoglycemia unawareness, gastroparesis and in type 1 diabetes planning pregnancy or already pregnant. Please place a Referral to Endocrinology for CGMS placement and interpretation to avail this service. Please contact 314-977-6157 for appointment.

**DIVISION OF GASTROENTEROLOGY AND HEPATOLOGY**

Brent A. Tetri, M.D., moderated the Best of the AASLD this year on Saturday, December 1, 2012 which was held at Il Monastero at Saint Louis University. There were over 60 gastroenterologists, hepatologists, nurse
practitioners, surgeons, nurses, physician assistants, and general practitioners in attendance. **Bruce R. Bacon, M.D., Alex S. Befeler, M.D., Adrian M. Di Bisceglie, M.D., FACP, Layla Hajjafar M.D., M.S.c., and Betsy Tuttle-Newhall, M.D.** presented state-of-the-art lectures on various aspects of liver disease and transplantation. **Geoffrey McCaughan, M.D.** from the AW Morrow Gastroenterology and Hepatology Liver Centre affiliated with the University of Sydney in Sydney, Australia was the invited international visiting professor and guest speaker.

The Division of Gastroenterology & Hepatology would like to congratulate the following subspecialty residents (Fellows) who will be joining the Division on July 1, 2013.

**Ben “Brad” Bradenham, M.D.**
MD: University of Virginia
IM: Washington University

**Elie Chahla, M.D.**
MD: American University of Beirut
IM: Saint Louis University

**Nicholas “Nick” Frederickson, M.D.**
MD: Saint Louis University
IM: University of Iowa

**Patricia Nuckolls**, a long-time employee in the Division of Gastroenterology & Hepatology (13 years) retired on December 14, 2012. Pat served as an administrative assistant to many of the faculty in the Division. She has been a very loyal, dedicated and hardworking employee and will truly be missed by all.

**DIVISION OF GENERAL INTERNAL MEDICINE**

**Lauren McLaughlin, RN, MSN, ACNP-BC** has recently joined the Division of General Internal Medicine and will be working with the Section of Hospital Medicine and the Non-Teaching Service. She is Board Certified through the ANCC as an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner.

**Matthew Stotts, M.D.**
MD: Saint Louis University
IM: University of Colorado
During October 2012, Timothy Rice, M.D. supervised Drs. Tuttle and Potter, two Saint Louis University residents on an international elective at Vanga Hospital in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Paul Tuttle, M.D. is a fourth year Internal Medicine and Pediatrics resident and Shannon Potter, M.D. is a third year OB/GYN resident. The three of them worked together at the 500-bed teaching hospital providing patient care and teaching four Congolese second-year Family Medicine residents and many Congolese medical students. Many of their mornings started out with a didactic lecture followed by hospital rounds. Dr. Potter participated in the care of obstetric patients as well as assisted in surgery. The team also worked in the capital, Kinshasa, where they held a two-day training seminar covering a variety of topics for the third year medical students at UPC Medical School. All three physicians were inspired by the care provided in the resource-constrained environment, and have committed to encouraging the work at Vanga Hospital. Since their return, they regularly receive e-mail communication with clinical questions and have consulted with SLU faculty for advice about managing unusual conditions such as Monkeypox and a 17 month old with an enormous omphalocele. Dr. Rice will return to Vanga Hospital May 2013 with medical students and an orthopedic surgery team.

DIVISION OF GERIATRIC MEDICINE

The Division of Geriatric Medicine is proud to announce that Julie K. Gammack, M.D. was honored by the Women's Commission as a 2012 YWCA Leader recipient for her outstanding leadership and contributions to the University. This event is one of two sponsored each year by the Women’s Commission, to recognize the contributions of Saint Louis University’s women administrators, faculty and staff. This annual, city-wide celebration of the contributions of working women will be the YWCA’s Leader Lunch 32 on December 6, 2012. The Women’s Commission has been involved since Leader Lunch 3, in 1983.
The Gateway Geriatric Education Center (GEC) is pleased to welcome Marla Berg-Weger, PhD, LCSW as the Executive Director. Marla is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Professor in the School of Social Work. She has been at Saint Louis University for 17 years. Marla will be assuming the role previously held by Nina Tumosa, PhD who has taken a position with HRSA. We wish Nina the best and look forward to working with Marla.

DIVISION OF HEMATOLOGY/ONCOLOGY

The Center for Blood and Marrow Outpatient Transplant

Monday, December 3\textsuperscript{rd} marked a new day in cancer treatment in the Saint Louis region.

Saint Louis University Hospital unveiled a brand new bone marrow outpatient treatment center, the region’s first comprehensive outpatient 16-room transplant center.

Friedrich Schuening, M.D., a pioneer in the implementation of the transplant center, cuts the ribbon, inaugurating the opening of the facility to the public. The center allows patients to receive their transplant during the day, return home, and come back the next day to continue their treatment. Patients who live more than 30 minutes away can stay in a hospital-owned facility, such as the Auxiliary Hospitality House.
DIVISION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, ALLERGY, AND IMMUNOBIOLOGY

A pilot study led by Daniel Hoft, M.D., Ph.D., at Saint Louis University’s Center for Vaccine Development could shape the future of tuberculosis vaccine research by developing tests to identify the most promising vaccine candidates to address this global crisis. Supported by a $100,000 grant, the pilot study is designed to answer a number of questions including what assays provide the most information about whether or not a vaccine is triggering a strong immune response and when those tests are best conducted.

Sharon Frey, M.D., was honored as a Leader in the Workplace at the 2012 YWCA Leader Lunch on December 6. Dr. Frey was nominated by her peers and colleagues for her outstanding work performance, leadership qualities, special talents, and outside activities and service to others.


DIVISION OF RHEUMATOLOGY

Terry L. Moore, M.D., received the award of Master of the American College of Rheumatology at ceremonies held in Washington, DC on Saturday, November 7, 2012. This is the highest honor bestowed on a member of the American College of Rheumatology (ACR). Dr. Moore has remained an active ACR member and is presently the chairman of Study Section C of the ACR/REF for the last three years for basic research grants.
Terry Moore, M.D. and Anil Chauhan, Ph.D. have been awarded a $1.8 million NIH grant to study the physiological and biochemical functions in lupus, an autoimmune disease, and develop possible new medications for its treatment. Lupus, a chronic inflammatory disease, occurs when the body's immune system produces antibodies that attack its own tissues and organs, and affects different parts of the body including kidneys, blood cells, brain, heart and lungs. Drs. Moore and Chauhan will study and evaluate the role of T-cells and immune complexes in the disease, and how they generate inflammatory responses.

INTERNAL MEDICINE RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Congratulations to Miguel Paniagua, M.D. who is an Associate Editor for the “Internal Medicine In-Review Study Guide”, which will be distributed to internal medicine residency programs and residents across the U.S. This Comprehensive Study Guide covers the ABIM certifying exam’s top-tested categories and is an excellent companion to an Online Study System at: http://inreviewim.com. Dr. Paniagua also recruited the following fellow faculty members and internal medicine residents as co-authors:

Fred Buckhold, M.D.  
Assistant Professor, Division of General Internal Medicine

Alexandra Voinescu, M.D.  
(Nephrology/Urology)  
Assistant Professor, Division of Nephrology

Elie Chahla, M.D.  
(Gastroenterology)  
Fellow (2013), Division of Gastroenterology

Michael Sanley, M.D.  
(Pulmonary Diseases)  
Chief Resident, Internal Medicine

Sarah Boutwell, M.D.  
(Ear, Nose & Throat)  
Resident, Internal Medicine

Wassem El-Anseed, M.D.  
(Hematology)  
Chief Resident, Internal Medicine

Deepika Fernandes, M.D.  
(Medical Oncology)  Resident, Internal Medicine

Mustafa Hyder, M.D.  
(Medical Oncology)  Resident, Internal Medicine

Edward Kessler, M.D.  
(Endocrinology, Diabetes, & Metabolism)  Resident, Internal Medicine

Genevieve Moyer, M.D.  
(Medical Oncology)  Resident, Internal Medicine

Yashaswini Yergunta, M.D.  
(Endocrinology, Diabetes, & Metabolism)  Resident, Internal Medicine
Beginning this academic year, the ACGME will be requiring faculty members to complete an annual online survey. This survey will take about 10 minutes to complete and contains questions about their experiences working within your program and their interactions with the residents/fellows training. Non-Physician faculty members (as indicated on your program’s faculty roster) will NOT be surveyed. They require a response rate of at least 60%. The deadline to complete the survey is January 6, 2013. Please contact Charlotte Robinson Leslie at robins@slu.edu or 314-577-8762 for any additional questions.

The results of the annual fellowship match were announced on December 5, 2012. The following Internal Medicine residents matched in their specialty:

**Bassim Assioun, M.D.** matched in Nephrology at SLU.

**Faiza Bhatti, M.D.** matched in Gastroenterology at Henry Ford (Michigan).

**Elie Chahla, M.D.** matched in Gastroenterology at SLU.

**Mireille El Hayek, M.D.** matched in Endocrinology at SLU.

**Hermina Fernandes, M.D.** matched in Hematology/Oncology at SLU.

**Edward Kessler, M.D.** matched in Pulmonary & Critical Care at Loyola (Chicago).

**Robbie Mangalasseril, M.D.** matched in Cardiology at SLU.

**Fazia Mir, M.D.** matched in Gastroenterology at New York University.

**Sanjeev Kumar Patel, M.D.** matched in Pulmonary & Critical Care at University of Cincinnati.

**Braden Powers, M.D.** matched in Pulmonary & Critical Care at SLU.

**Michael Sanley, M.D.** matched in Pulmonary & Critical Care at Georgetown (Washington, D.C.).

**Karthik Venkatesh, M.D.** matched in Cardiology at SLU.

**Andrija Vidic, M.D.** matched in Cardiology at SLU.

**Cory Wilczynski, M.D.** matched in Endocrinology at Loyola (Chicago).

**Med-Peds Paul Tuttle, M.D.** matched in Rheumatology at SLU.

Congrats to the Chief Residents for 2013-2014:

**Kenneth Bensch, M.D.**
**Nicholas Delecarsis, M.D.**
**Yashaswini Yeragunta, M.D.**
**Rugheed Ghadban, M.D.**
**Jonathan Rodrigues, M.D.** (Med-Peds Chief)

**Residents of the month:** Just a reminder that we are looking for faculty sponsors for January, February and March. Each month a resident and two runners up will be commended for exemplary performance in residency as nominated by peers and/or faculty. This could include (and not limited to) going the 'extra mile' for a patient, good in-service score, helping a colleague, etc. Nominations to the chief residents are encouraged, and we also need faculty sponsors for 100 dollars a month (one 50 dollar and two 25 dollar gift cards will be purchased monthly for the winner and
runners-up respectively). Gift cards can be purchased at Powercard. Please contact Melissa Westwood at westwood@slu.edu or 314-577-8762 if you would like to sponsor a month.

October 2012—“Resident of the Month”

**Winner:** R. Devendrappa, M.D. “She is a very hardworking resident who is responsible and thorough with patient care and always looking out for the patient’s best interest.”

**Honorable Mention:** Raj Singh, M.D. “Stepped in and volunteered to teach and supervise interns and students with procedures outside of his busy work day.”

**Honorable Mention:** Kirk Brown, M.D. “Working very hard on a busy CCS/CCU service while staying committed to self-directed learning and experience.”

November 2012—“Resident of the Month”

**Winners:** (Tie) Jad Raffoul, M.D.; “Goes above and beyond to care for patients.”

Asma AlZougbi, M.D.; “Goes above and beyond to teach.”

Dr. Alan Maniet sponsored October. Dr. Nanda Methuku sponsored November.

NEW RESEARCH GRANTS AWARDED

Adrian M. Di Bisceglie, M.D., FACP, Gastroenterology and Hepatology, $28,572 from the CDC for “Pincer Assays for Detecting Early Hepatitis C Infection.”

Jianguo Liu, M.D., Ph.D., Infectious Diseases, Allergy and Immunology, $311,250 from the NIH for “The Role of Tristetraprolin in Control of Breast Cancer Progression.”

Abhay Laddu, M.D., Cardiology, $81,844 from New England Research Institute / NIH for “RECESS – Red Cell Storage Duration Study.”

Sarah George, M.D., Infectious Diseases, Allergy and Immunology, $50,000 from the WU Institute for Clinical and Translational Research/NIH for “Immunity to wild-type virus and immunodominant epitopes after dengue vaccination.”

Daniel Hoft, M.D., Ph.D., Infectious Diseases, Allergy and Immunology, $106,416 from Aeras Global TB Vaccine Foundation / FDA for “A Novel Approach for Identifying Biological Immunological Biomarkers for TB Vaccines.”

Daniel Hoft, M.D., Ph.D., Infectious Diseases, Allergy and Immunology, $100,000 from the President’s Research Fund for “Phase I, Open-label, Pilot Study for the Development of a Human BCG Challenge Model for Assessment of TB Immunity.”

Xiaofeng Fan, M.D., Gastroenterology and Hepatology, $50,000 from Saint Louis University Liver Center for “Cell Culture System for Hepatitis C Virus Genotype 1a.”

CONGRATULATIONS

To Stephen Schmidt for participating in the National LIFE Runners Team marathon on October 21. Stephen surpassed his
donation goal, by raising over $350, with 100% of the proceeds going to Good Shepherd Children and Family Services.

The Department of Internal Medicine-Administration is pleased to announce the addition of Gina Williams to our department. Gina brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to her new position as an Administrative Assistant in the Office of the Chairman. Stop by and welcome Gina to our team!

CHAIRMAN’S BLOG

For faculty, staff and residents of Internal Medicine, their Google Apps Sites include the “IM Chairman’s Site”. Clicking on the “IM Chairman’s Site” opens to the Chairman’s Blog. The posts are visible on the site. To the left there is a navigation panel with links to each of the posts and a link to the Anonymous Feedback. Clicking on the Anonymous Feedback opens a window which has a test field for entering feedback with a submit button below the field. Further down the page is the feedback received so far.

WEBSITE

Access the Department of Internal Medicine website at http://internalmed.slu

INFORMATION FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER

If you have any news, notices, achievements that you would like to be included in the next newsletter or if you think something important was missed, please contact Gina Williams at gwilliams@slu.edu.

Editor
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