DIVISION OF CARDIOLOGY

Overview

The faculty and staff of the Division of Cardiology strive to provide excellence in clinical care of the patient with cardiovascular disease, education of the next generation of cardiovascular practitioners, and cardiovascular research. The Division of Cardiology provides state-of-the-art clinical services in all aspects of cardiovascular care. Furthermore, the division’s faculty continues to participate as lecturers, abstract graders, and program chairs at national and international cardiovascular conferences as well as serving as editorial consultants and manuscript reviewers for most of the major cardiovascular peer-reviewed journals currently published.

The division’s efforts have been recognized by The American Heart Association, as we were one of only thirteen hospitals across the country to receive their 2009 Gold Triple Crown Award for excellence in care of patients with acute myocardial infarction, stroke, and congestive heart failure. Ten of the current faculty members were recognized by their peers and selected to the St. Louis Best Doctors list, a higher percentage than any other group in the region.

The Division of Cardiology maintains outpatient offices in the Doctors’ Office Building on the Saint Louis University Hospital campus, the University Club Tower office building on Brentwood Boulevard, and in the Des Peres Medical Arts Pavilion. The University Club Tower facility is the flagship of the outpatient facilities and provides a full range of cardiovascular services including radionuclide myocardial perfusion stress testing, diagnostic echocardiograms, stress echocardiograms, arrhythmias and device monitoring, cardiac rehabilitation, as well as cardiovascular screening visits and programs designed for primary cardiac prevention. Over 8,000 patients per year are seen in this facility. The practice at the Des Peres Medical Office Pavilion offers patients access to echocardiographic rest and stress studies. The division performs outpatient cardiac catheterization procedures at the Des Peres site in an outpatient catheterization lab and in our primary outpatient catheterization facility at Saint Louis University Hospital’s TenetCare outpatient facility.

In the area of education, the division’s fellowship training program continues to be a major area of strength. Currently, four fellows per year are selected in the basic 3-year program from an applicant pool of over 1,000 residents annually. In addition, the division maintains an advanced fellowship training program in interventional cardiology. Each of these programs has received full ACGME accreditation, assuring our fellows that they are provided the highest level of education. The fellowship training program is integrally woven into all of the divisional clinical and research activities. Our program graduates over the past five years have all entered subspecialty training (i.e. interventional cardiology or electrophysiology), academic practice, or private practice of their choice. Furthermore, they have had a 100% pass rate on the American Board of Internal Medicine’s Cardiovascular Diseases examination.

The division maintains several inpatient cardiology services based at Saint Louis University Hospital including the coronary care unit, the consult team, and the inpatient telemetry unit. Fellows, residents, and medical students rotate through these services year round caring for patients with a wide variety of cardiovascular disorders.
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Additional residents and students continue to electively rotate in other areas of cardiology including the cardiac catheterization laboratory, the echo laboratory, as well as the electrophysiological and heart failure services. The Division of Cardiology maintains an active conference schedule with early morning or noon time conferences occurring on a daily basis with CME accreditation.

In the area of research, the Division of Cardiology at Saint Louis University School of Medicine continues to be recognized on a national and international level. Both the electrocardiographic and echocardiographic core labs of the division continue to participate in important studies focused on prevention and treatment of coronary artery disease, hyperlipidemia, hypertension, cardioembolic stroke, congestive heart failure, atrial fibrillation and intracardiac devices. Additional research in the assessment of coronary flow, cardiac imaging, and antithrombotic therapy provide additional exciting areas for future research. There are currently approximately 25 active research projects ongoing in the division including multiple key studies funded by the NIH and industry. The research activities in the Division of Cardiology include focused areas in the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and long-term therapeutic options for the management of cardiovascular disease including arrhythmias, congestive heart failure, coronary artery disease, ischemic and non-ischemic cardiovascular diseases. In FY 2009, the faculty of the division published over 30 original papers, reviews and book chapters.

HONORS AND RECOGNITION

Bernard R. Chaitman, M.D.
Best Doctors, St. Louis Magazine.

Paul J. Hauptman, M.D.
Best Doctors, St. Louis Magazine

Denise Janosik, M.D.
Best Doctors, St. Louis Magazine

Arthur J. Labovitz, M.D.
Best Doctors, St. Louis Magazine


Michael J. Lim, M.D.
Best Doctors, St. Louis Magazine

Lisa Schiller, M.D.
Best Doctors, St. Louis Magazine, 2009

Alan Maniet, D.O.
Best Doctors, St. Louis Magazine, 2009

NEW FACULTY ENTERING THE DIVISION

Ryan Berg, M.D., assistant professor, joined the division in July 2008 after completing his fellowship in Interventional Cardiology at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center.
Daniel Friedman, M.D., assistant professor, joined the division in August 2008 after completing his Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology fellowship at Saint Louis University.

Jennifer Lash, M.D., assistant professor, joined the division in July 2008 after completing her subspecialty residency in Cardiovascular Diseases at Saint Louis University.

GRANTS AND CONTRACTS HELD BY EACH FACULTY MEMBER

Bernard R. Chaitman, M.D.


Denise Janosik, M.D.

Arthur J. Labovitz, M.D.

During fiscal year 2009 the Division of Cardiology had 39 active studies with different sponsors. Due to confidentiality agreements and non-publicity clauses in contracts with sponsors, specific information pertaining to industry sponsored research may not be released in public documents.