



Straight Talk

March is Kidney Month



What is the Diagnosis?

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Department of Internal Medicine , Wayne State University
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Message from the Chairman



To the Department of Medicine Family

The escalating COVID-19 pandemic is a major challenge to the healthcare system and to the community that we serve. During these challenging times, I feel grateful for your commitment, dedication and expertise as we navigate uncertain waters. I realize that such conditions may contribute to anxiety, uncertainty and stress. As a Department, we are at the forefront of combating this epidemic. Every member in our department, those who deliver the care and those who support the operations, play critical roles in the delivery of care. There are a few themes that are worth emphasizing:

- 1) Healthcare is a sacred mission. I am confident that we will rise to the challenge and work collaboratively to provide the best care for our patients and communities. Each and every one of us will have to do more so we can meet the needs of our patients, students, trainees and other members of the healthcare team
- 2) The health of our workforce is critical. We need to take care of our wellbeing as well as the wellbeing of our co-workers.
- 3) It is critical that we are up to date on the status and management guidelines related to COVID-19. Please make sure to read the daily updates from UPG, DMC and KCI.
- 4) To minimize disease transmission, we are developing plans to triage patients who are scheduled for ambulatory visits. We ask that each provider review their list for appropriateness of rescheduling or telehealth. Dr. Aris Urbanes is finalizing this plan and will be sharing it soon.
- 5) We are all in this together. I am asking each division chief to develop a contingency plan to ensure coverage of critical inpatient services and to minimize disruption should a colleague be affected by the disease.
- 6) All in person activities that do not meet the 6-foot social distance criterion will be switched to a virtual format. This applies to educational conferences and meetings.
- 7) We need every member of our department. Therefore, I am urging everyone to avoid travel to minimize exposure risk or the need for quarantine.
- 8) In the era of social media, we need to be thoughtful about the potential impact of what we share on our patients and colleagues. More importantly, we should NEVER share any information about an affected colleague without their explicit permission and always be mindful of our patients' privacy.

In closing, I would like to reiterate my commitment to consistent communication and transparency. We are ONE family. We care deeply about each other and about our mission. We will meet this challenge and emerge stronger. I am always available to listen and to help. You can email or call me at any time

M. Safwan Badr, MD, MBA

Professor and Chair, Department of Internal Medicine

Libirio Tranchida, MD, Endowed Professor of Medicine.

Wayne State University School of Medicine

Department of Medicine Faculty Retreat

Faculty members, division chiefs and other leaders in department of medicine participated in a day long retreat on January 24th to assess our progress and discuss future plans. Program included presentations by division chiefs, general discussions and focused group discussions.

In this edition

- 1) Message from the Chairman
- 2) DOM Retreat
- 3) Welcome to Dr Lockette
- 4) Welcome New Faculty
- 5) Awards/publications
- 6) Announcements



Following Groups under their leaders were tasked to work throughout the academic year for promotion of various priority programs. The Groups will meet regularly to develop these programs and monitor progress



Innovation in Medical Education

- Leader: D. Levine/J. Weinberger
- Abraham, Heather N
- Raheem, Shaheena
- Revankar, Sanjay
- Venkat, Divya
- Salloum, Anan
- Surapaneni, Malini
- Mishra, Tushar

Faculty Development

- Leader: N. Rossi
- Ayers, Eric
- Singh, Manmeet
- Rowley, James
- Lohia, Prateek
- Cardozo, Shaun
- Brown, Patti
- Lee, Sara



Community Engagement

- Leader: L. Riddle Jones
- Taha, Wael
- Ehrinpreis, Murray
- Roxas, Renato
- Mitry, Mira S
- Sondheimer, James
- Zachariah, Mareena
- Kagzi, Asim
- Cohn, Jonathan
- Mendez, Jennifer

Destination Programs

- Leader: G. Saydain
- Afonso, Luis
- Lockette, Warren
- Thati, Neelima
- Patel, Pragnesh
- Zachariah, Mareena
- Chandrasekar, Pranatharthi
- Imran, Nashat
- Badr, M Safwan
- York, Russel
- Sternlicht, Hillel
- Berhane Seyoum

Chronic Disease Management

- Leader : A. Urbanes
- Nnodim, Ijeoma
- Sankari, Abdulghani
- Sarakbi, Housam
- Msallati, Zaher
- Matthews, Sajith
- Dhar, Sorabh
- Deol, Bibban

Welcome to Dr Warren Lockette

Chief of Endocrinology Division



Dr Lockette received his medical degree from University of Michigan Medical School, and completed his residency training in Internal Medicine at University of California. He served as Professor of Endocrinology (with tenure), Medicine, and Physiology, and Thomas Burns, MD, Distinguished Professor of Endocrinology and Medicine, and Vice Chair, Medicine at University of Missouri School of Medicine from 2014 to 2020. He also served as the U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) and Chief Medical Officer for six million of our military service members and their families from 2014 – 2018.

Welcome To New Faculty Members

Gastroenterology



Dr Thomas Kelly MD

Nephrology



Dr Hillel Sternlicht

Welcome to New Faculty Members

General Internal Medicine & Hospitalist Division



Asim Kagzi MD

Dr



Dr Shaheena Raheem MD



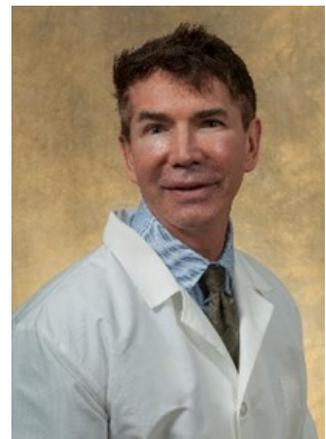
Dr Basheer Kumangal MD



Dr Madiha Saleem MD



Dr Lubna Fatiwala



Dr Allan Frank MD



Dr Amar Ahmad MD

Recognition, Grants , Awards



Congratulations to Dr Lobelia Samavati, Associate Professor in the Pulmonary Critical Care and Sleep medicine , for receiving 1.98 million NIH award .

Dr Samavati leads a large clinical and research program in Sarcoidosis at DMC/Wayne State University.

A team of researchers led by Lobelia Samavati, M.D., associate professor in the Center for Molecular Medicine and Genetics and the Department of Internal Medicine at Wayne State University's School of Medicine, has been working for more than 10 years to discover specific serological biomarkers of sarcoidosis and tuberculosis.

With the help of a recent \$1.98 million grant from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health, Dr. Samavati's research team seeks to advance their work of developing biomarker technology for identification of biomarkers of sarcoidosis.

Dr. Samavati developed a comprehensive library derived from sarcoidosis tissue that can differentiate between sarcoidosis and several other respiratory disorders. Using a high throughput method, her team developed a complex epitope library derived from materials of sarcoidosis patients. This cDNA library contains large numbers of epitopes immunoscreened with sera from patients with sarcoidosis containing high titer IgG antibodies and the cloned phages, which have been used to construct an antigen microarray to detect antibodies against sarcoid antigen(s) in the sera of test subjects.

https://today.wayne.edu/medicine/news/2020/03/03/wayne-state-university-team-receives-198-million-nih-award-to-develop-diagnostic-tests-for-sarcoidosis-36122?utm_source=link&utm_medium=email-5e663c0888e79&utm_campaign=Warrrior+Medicine+-+March+9%2C+2020+-+Wayne+State+University&utm_content=Wayne+State+University+team+receives+%241.98+million+NIH+award+to

Below are links to Dr Samavati's recent contributions and publication

Scientists at WSU develop new screening tool to differentiate between tuberculosis and lung disease sarcoidosis

<https://today.wayne.edu/medicine/news/2015/04/06/scientists-at-wsu-develop-new-screening-tool-to-differentiate-between-tuberculosis-and-lung-disease-sarcoidosis-29216>

WSU researchers publish discovery of sarcoidosis inflammation mechanism

<https://today.wayne.edu/medicine/news/2019/05/03/wsu-researchers-publish-discovery-of-sarcoidosis-inflammation-mechanism-31695>

https://scholar.google.com/scholar?hl=en&as_sdt=0%2C23&q=lobelia+samavati&oq=Lobelia+Sa

Recognition Awards Presentations

All department of Medicine residency and fellowship programs received full accreditation and commendation from ACGME.

Congratulations to program directors and supporting faculty members for their contribution to excellent teaching to our trainees

Congratulations and Well Done ! General Internal Medicine & Hospital Division
Our General Internal Medicine team received commendation from the leadership for Karmanos Hospital. For achieving 96 percentile hospitalist "HCAHPS - Communication w/ Docs Domain".



Dr Eric Ayers was named by his peer to the Best Doctor Doctors in America list for



Ijeoma Nnodim, selected as the recipient of the Wayne State University School of Medicine 2020 Recent Alumni Award.



Teena Chopra MD from division of infectious disease has taken a major leadership role in the hospital and community in education and infection control related issues about COVID Pandemic.

Dr. Chopra has been featured in a number of local and national media outlets, including TIME Magazine, offering her expertise on the virus and infectious diseases precautions. She serves on the Wayne State University Presidential Coronavirus Committee, assisting with preparations related to the virus.

<https://today.wayne.edu/medicine/news/2020/03/09/wsu-expert-answers-your-coronavirus-questions-36659>



Dr Latonya Riddle-Jones received The Alumna Woman of Distinction Award for 2019

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WEB EXCLUSIVE

2020: THE NEXT LEAHP (LEADERSHIP IN HEALTH POLICY) YEAR

Anders Chen, MD, MHS; Jennifer Cowart, MD; Latonya Riddle-Jones, MD; Sarah Candler, MD

Dr. Chen (andersch@uw.edu) is assistant professor of medicine at the University of Washington School of Medicine. Dr. Cowart (cowart.jennifer@mayo.edu) is assistant professor of medicine at Mayo Clinic Florida. Dr. Riddle-Jones (lriddle@wayne.edu) is assistant professor of medicine and pediatrics at Wayne State University School of Medicine. Dr. Candler (candler@bcm.edu) is assistant professor of medicine at Baylor College of Medicine. All authors are previous LEAHP Scholars.