

medicine minute

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

special events

INTERNAL MEDICINE GRAND ROUNDS

Nobel Laureate William Kaelin to Give Seldin Symposium Keynote on April 19



William G. Kaelin Jr., M.D., a Professor of Medicine at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Nobel Prize laureate, will present the Seldin Symposium keynote during [Internal Medicine Grand Rounds](#) on **Friday, April 19, at 8 a.m. in D1.502**. His topic: “New Treatments for Anemia, Ischemia, and Cancer Emerging from Studies of von Hippel-Lindau Disease.”

Originally from New York, Dr. Kaelin studied chemistry and mathematics at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina, and received his medical degree there in 1982. He then completed internal medicine residency training at Johns

Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland, where he served as Chief Resident. He received advanced training in medical oncology at Dana-Farber, where he began his studies of tumor suppressor proteins. He became an independent investigator at Dana-Farber in 1992, and a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator and Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School in 2002.

In 2019, the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine was awarded jointly to Dr. Kaelin, Sir Peter J. Ratcliffe, and Gregg L. Semenza for their discoveries of how cells can sense and adapt to changing oxygen availability. During the 1990s they identified a molecular machinery that regulates the activity of genes in response to varying levels of oxygen. The discoveries may lead to new treatments for anemia, cancer, and other diseases.

Among Dr. Kaelin’s other honors, he was elected to the National Academy of Medicine (formerly the Institute of Medicine) in 2007, and the National Academy of Sciences in 2010.

SELDIN SYMPOSIUM

OHSU’s Steven Mansoor to Present Physician-Scientist Lecture on April 19



Steven E. Mansoor, M.D., Ph.D., an Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine in the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine at Oregon Health & Science University, will present the [Seldin-Smith Physician-Scientist Lecture](#) on **Friday, April 19, at noon in D1.502** as part of the ninth annual Donald W. Seldin Research Symposium. His topic: “From Molecular Structure to Drug Development: How Structural Biology Can Impact Cardiovascular Medicine.”

Dr. Mansoor holds a bachelor’s degree in biochemistry and molecular biology from Reed College in Portland, Oregon. He then received a combined M.D./Ph.D. degree from Oregon

Health & Science University, before fast-tracking through internal medicine residency into a combined clinical cardiology/research fellowship at OHSU. In addition to running a basic science research program, Dr. Mansoor is an active clinical cardiologist treating patients with cardiovascular disease.

The Mansoor Lab uses structure/function studies to explore and define the molecular pharmacology of ligand-gated ion channels and G-protein coupled receptors in order to then use in silico, structure-based drug design to develop novel small-molecules capable of selectively modulating the function of these receptors. His research vision spans from studying molecular ligand/receptor interactions at the laboratory bench, to development of novel small-molecule pharmacologic therapies, and to ultimately treating patients with cardiovascular diseases at the bedside.

In 2023, Dr. Mansoor received the Donald Seldin-Holly Smith Award for Pioneering Research from the American Society for Clinical Investigation, from which he had previously received a Young Physician-Scientist Award. He was elected for membership in 2024. He also is a 2022 recipient of the NIH Director’s New Innovator Award.

To learn more, visit the [Seldin Symposium web site](#).

kudos

INFLUENCERS

Rhodes Re-elected to AGS Board of Directors



Ramona Rhodes, M.D., M.P.H., M.S.C.S., an Associate Professor in the Division of Geriatric Medicine, was recently elected to serve a second three-year term on the American Geriatrics Society Board of Directors.

Dr. Rhodes earned her medical degree at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. She completed a residency in internal medicine at MetroHealth Medical Center and Case Western Reserve University and gained advanced training through a fellowship in geriatric medicine at Rhode Island Hospital and Brown University. She also completed a

postdoctoral research fellowship in health services research at Brown University, where she received a master’s degree in public health. In addition, she earned a Master of Science in Clinical Science at UT Southwestern.

Dr. Rhodes joined the UT Southwestern faculty in 2009.

RECOGNITION

Postdoctoral Researchers Receive Awards at Physiology Summit

american physiology summit

Four postdoctoral researchers from the Institute for Exercise and Environmental Medicine (IEEM) recently received awards for work they presented at the American Physiology Summit, the annual meeting of the American Physiological Society.

John D. Akins, Ph.D., received the Research Recognition Award for “Neural-Cardiovascular Responses to Orthostasis Following 8 Weeks of Home-based Lower Leg Heating in Older Women with Hypertension,” a project for which he received mentoring from **Qi Fu, M.D., Ph.D.**, a Professor in the Division of Cardiology.

Whitley C. Atkins, Ph.D., received the Gatorade Sports Science Institute Postdoctoral Research Award for “Thermoregulatory Responses to Very Hot and Dry Heat Exposure: Interactions Between Age and Sex,” a project for which she received mentoring from **Craig Crandall, Ph.D.**, a Professor in the Division of Cardiology.

Dr. Crandall also served as mentor for **Zachary J. McKenna, Ph.D.**, who received the CANTROL Postdoctoral Research Award for “Skin Wetting Attenuates the Thermal Strain of Older Adults Exposed to Very Hot and Dry Heat with Accompanying Activities of Daily Living.”

Denis J. Wakeham, Ph.D., received the Research Recognition Award for “Functional Sympatholysis of Neuropeptide Y-mediated Vasoconstriction in Humans,” a project for which he was mentored by **Christopher M. Hearon Jr., Ph.D.**, an Assistant Professor of Applied Clinical Research who received the New Investigator Award.

CLINICAL CARE

Dhaliwal Co-authors Guidelines for Serial Bone Density Monitoring

Ruban Dhaliwal, M.D., M.P.H., an Assistant Professor in the Division of Endocrinology and a Research Scholar in the Center for Mineral Metabolism and Clinical Research, co-authored “[Follow-up Bone Mineral Density Testing: Official Positions of the International Society for Clinical Densitometry](#),” published in the *Journal of Clinical Densitometry*.

Dr. Dhaliwal earned her medical degree at Vinnica National Medical University in Ukraine. She completed internal medicine residency training at Long Island Jewish Medical Center in New York, where she also served as Chief Resident. She then received additional training through an endocrinology, diabetes, and metabolism fellowship at State University of New York, where she also obtained a master’s degree in public health.

research roundup

PUBLICATIONS

Agarwal and Colleagues Present New Findings from Lipodystrophy Study



Anil Agarwal, Ph.D., a Professor in the Division of Endocrinology, and colleagues [published new findings in *iScience*](#) that regeneration of only a small quantity of adipose tissue by genetic engineering is enough to improve fatty liver and insulin resistance in a mouse model of congenital generalized lipodystrophy. The lipodystrophic mice that genetically lack the enzyme AGPAT2, which is involved in biosynthesis of phospholipids (lipids with a phosphate group) in the adipose tissue, lack body adipose tissue and develop fatty liver, insulin resistance, and diabetes.

In the study, the researchers learned that insulin resistance in lipodystrophic mice is exacerbated by uncontrolled calorie consumption (due to the lack of the hormone leptin).

“Surprisingly, when mice are fasted, they have similar glucose levels to that of wild-type mice, but the plasma insulin remains high,” Dr. Agarwal says. “This raises the question of whether there is a pancreatic insulin secretory defect in the absence of the enzyme AGPAT2.”

Dr. Agarwal says this research could lead to a new mechanism for insulin secretion.

Additional authors: Mary “Katie” Tunison, B.S., Jay Horton, M.D., and Abhimanyu Garg, M.D.

Dr. Horton holds the Center for Human Nutrition Director’s Endowed Chair; the Distinguished University Chair in Human Nutrition; and the Scott Grundy Director’s Chair.

Dr. Garg holds the Distinguished Chair in Human Nutrition Research.

in case you missed it

MEDBLOG

Albin Discusses ‘Food is Medicine’ Research, Details UTSW Initiatives



“More than one in eight Dallas County residents and nearly one in five children don’t have access to enough affordable, nutritious food,” writes **Jaclyn Albin, M.D.**, an Associate Professor in the Division of Combined Internal Medicine and Pediatrics in a recent post on *MedBlog*. “The deep-rooted, multifaceted issue of food insecurity elevates the risk of chronic diseases, such as high blood pressure, diabetes, obesity, and other cardiovascular conditions.”

Because many people, including medical professionals, have a limited understanding of the medicinal nature of food and how poor nutrition can impact long-term health, Dr. Albin details research into the barriers to healthy eating and describes UTSW initiatives to address food insecurity.

“While society often blames individuals for making unhealthy food choices, the truth is that for many people it’s not a choice but a survival tactic,” she says.

To read Dr. Albin’s *MedBlog* post, click [here](#).

Articles and Videos Featuring Internal Medicine Colleagues

- [Odedosu Promoted to Assistant Dean for Student Affairs](#) (Via *CenterTimes Plus*, with **Kehinde Odedosu, M.D.**)



hot jobs in internal medicine

Looking to advance your career? Want to refer a friend? Check this job opening:

- [Department Facilities Administrator](#)

this week

EDUCATION & TRAINING

More Than 130 Posters Will Be Displayed on April 19



The Ninth Annual Donald W. Seldin Research Symposium will showcase the Department's strengths in research, education, and patient care through a celebration of trainees' mentored research accomplishments. In-person poster sessions are scheduled from **11 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 2 p.m. on Friday, April 19**, throughout the McDermott Center Plaza.

As in previous years, the symposium features poster presentations of [basic research](#), [clinical science](#), [clinical vignettes](#), [medical education](#), and [quality improvement](#).

Participants will vie for awards in the following categories:

Basic Research, Social Impact, Quality Care and Education at Parkland Health, and Best Case Presentation. Six trainees will be designated Foster Fellows, named in honor of [Dr. Daniel W. Foster](#), and will give a 10-minute oral presentation of their work during Internal Medicine Grand Rounds on **Friday, April 26**.

To learn more, visit the [Seldin Symposium web site](#).

Noteworthy Lectures & Events

- **Wednesday, April 17, 8 a.m.:** [Geriatrics Grand Rounds](#) with **Dr. Rachel Naramore** (Hospice & Palliative Care) – “But Won't She Starve? Artificial Nutrition and Hydration in Serious Illness and End of Life”
- **Wednesday, April 17, Noon:** [Excellence in Immunology Lecture Series](#) with **Dr. Pablo Penalosa MacMaster** (Northwestern University) – “Improving Viral Vaccines by Modulations of Signals 1, 2, 3”
- **Thursday, April 18, Noon:** [Renal Grand Rounds](#) with **Dr. June Song** (Physician-Scientist Training Program) – “A Case of Drug-induced Acute Interstitial Nephritis”
- **Thursday, April 18, Noon:** [Pathology Seminar Series](#) with **Dr. Eric Wartchow** (University of Colorado) – “Ultrastructural Pathology of Non-renal Tissues: When ELSE Should You be Interested in the EM Findings?”
- **Thursday, April 18, 4 p.m.:** [Dennis K. Stone University Lecture in Biomedical Science](#) with **Dr. William G. Kaelin Jr.** (Dana-Farber Cancer Institute & Harvard Medical School) – “The von Hippel-Lindau Tumor Suppressor; Insights into Oxygen Sensing, Cancer, and Drugging the Undruggable”

- **Friday, April 12, Noon:** [Hematology & Oncology Grand Rounds](#) with **Dr. Sarah Kashanian** (Hematology & Oncology) – “Characteristics and Outcomes of Breast Cancer Treated in a Safety-Net Setting”
- **Friday, April 12, 1 p.m.:** [Endocrine Grand Rounds](#) with **Dr. Neha Garg** (Pediatric Endocrinology) – “Assessing Continuous Glucose Monitor Accuracy for Diabetes Management in Hospitalized Children”
- **Saturday, April 20, 7 a.m.:** [What’s New in GI Symposium](#)



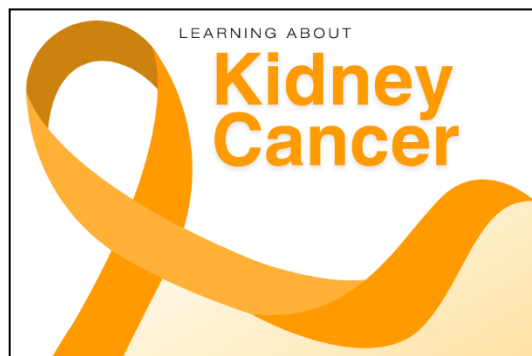
Internal Medicine Events Calendar

[Click to view additional events](#)

on the horizon

KIDNEY CANCER PROGRAM

Educational Event Scheduled for April 27



The Kidney Cancer Program will host an in-person educational event for patients, caregivers, and advocates on **Saturday, April 27, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.** in the Pickens Medical Education and Conference Center.

The conference is co-chaired by **James Brugarolas, M.D., Ph.D.**, and **Jue Wang, M.D.**, both Professors in the Division of Hematology and Oncology, and will include presentations on genetics, oncometabolism, radiotherapy, immunotherapy, surgical interventions, drug therapy, and the role of nurses and advocates.

“The event is open to all patients, regardless of where they’re receiving treatment,” says **Dr. Wang**. “We want these resources to be available to any patient experiencing a kidney cancer diagnosis, treatment, or survivorship.”

Dr. Brugarolas holds the the Sherry Wigley Crow Cancer Research Endowed Chair in Honor of Robert Lewis Kirby, M.D.

To attend the event, click [here](#).

reminders

COMMUNITY

Join Team UTSW at the Take Steps Walk on April 20

UT Southwestern is sponsoring the **Take Steps Walk**, an annual event that benefits the Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation, on **Saturday, April 20**, at Oak Point Park in Plano. Its purpose is to help accelerate research, advance treatments, and provide education and support programs to improve quality of life for patients living with inflammatory bowel disease.

UTSW will have a walk team at the event. Employees, family members, and friends are welcome to join the team.

To join the team, contact [Susan Hughes](#).

LEADERSHIP LECTURE SERIES

Smith to Speak on Accountability on May 2



The Leadership Lecture Series resumes on **Thursday, May 2, at noon** with a presentation by Lauren Smith, B.B.A., Senior Organizational Development Consultant. Her topic: “Accountability.”

All lectures are virtual, informal, and brown bag. Faculty, APPs, administrators, and trainees are welcome to attend.

To attend the virtual event, click [here](#). Meeting ID: 953 1006 9878; Passcode: 094386

Look for the next *Medicine Minute* on **Tuesday, April 23**.
Share feedback and news items with us at IMNews@UTSouthwestern.edu

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