

medicine minute

Tuesday, June 25, 2024

kudos

ACCOLADES

Boktor Receives Bilhartz Teaching Award



Moheb Boktor, M.D., an Associate Professor in the Division of Digestive and Liver Diseases, has received the Lyman E. Bilhartz Teaching Award by the Gastrointestinal Fellowship Program for the 2023-2024 academic year.

The Bilhartz Teaching Award is given annually to the faculty member who demonstrates a strong commitment to teaching fellows, residents, and medical students.

Originally from Egypt, Dr. Boktor received his medical training at Ain Shams University in Cairo. He completed internal medicine residency training and a fellowship in

gastroenterology at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in Shreveport, where he served as Chief Fellow.

Dr. Boktor joined the UT Southwestern faculty in 2019.

AWARDS

Knights Earns Division Teaching Award



Sheena Knights, M.D., an Assistant Professor in the Division of Infectious Diseases and Geographic Medicine and Associate Program Director of the HIV Fellowship, has received the Infectious Diseases Faculty Teaching Award for the 2023-2024 academic year.

“I’m really proud of Dr. Knights,” says **James “Brad” Cutrell, M.D.**, an Associate Professor in the Division of Infectious Diseases and Geographic Medicine and Program Director of the Infectious Diseases Fellowship. “She’s a clinical rock star, budding kaposi sarcoma researcher, and true advocate for fellows. They love being on service with her.”

Dr. Knights holds a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Princeton University in New Jersey. She earned her medical degree and completed internal medicine residency training at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. She then received advanced training through an infectious diseases fellowship at UT Southwestern.

Dr. Knights joined the UT Southwestern faculty in 2019.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

El Chediak Selected for Editorial Internship



Alissar El Chediak, M.D., an Assistant Professor in the Division of Nephrology, has been selected to serve as an Editorial Fellow for *The American Journal of Transplantation* (AJT).

AJT Editorial Fellows work directly with AJT editors and staff to gain experience in the day-to-day steps of peer review and publication through rotation-based training. The fellowship offers an opportunity to network with AJT editors through mentorship and participation in key journal initiatives.

Dr. El Chediak also received the Pancreas Workgroup Champion award from the [Kidney Pancreas Community of Practice](#) (KPCOP). The KPCOP (part of the American Society of Transplantation) is dedicated to advancing knowledge and fostering scientific collaborations among professionals involved in education, research, and patient advocacy to improve the health, safety, and quality of life for kidney and pancreas transplant recipients, as well as living kidney donors. The Pancreas Workgroup is a subgroup within the KPCOP.

“This award was in recognition of Dr. El Chediak’s service to the Kidney Pancreas Community of Practice,” says **Samir M. Parikh, M.D.**, Professor and Chief of the Division of Nephrology. “Over the past year, she has worked with colleagues from different institutions to advocate for pancreas transplantation and increase access to this important treatment modality.”

Dr. El Chediak earned her medical degree at the American University of Beirut, where she also completed internal medicine residency training. She gained advanced training through fellowships in nephrology and transplantation at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Tennessee.

Dr. El Chediak joined the UT Southwestern faculty in 2023.

conference report

AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION

Faculty, Fellows Present at Annual Diabetes Meeting

Faculty and fellows from the divisions of Endocrinology, Cardiology, Touchstone Diabetes Center, and the Center for Hypothalamic Research participated in numerous panel discussions, symposia, and poster sessions at the American Diabetes Association’s 84th Scientific Sessions, which took place from **June 21 to 24** in Orlando, Florida.

Each year, the conference brings together more than 11,000 attendees to explore the latest scientific findings in diabetes, with more than 200 sessions and 2,000 original research presentations.

Presenters from Internal Medicine included Endocrinology Fellow **Shubham Agarwal, M.B.B.S.**; **Jaime Almandoz, M.D., M.B.A.**, an Associate Professor in the Division of Endocrinology; **Uma Gunasekaran, M.D.**, an Associate Professor in the Division of Endocrinology; **Ildiko Lingvay, M.D., M.P.H., M.S.C.S.**, a Professor in the Division of Endocrinology; **Darren McGuire, M.D., M.H.Sc.**, a Professor in the Division of Cardiology; **Ambarish Pandey, M.D., M.S.C.S.**, an Associate Professor in the Division of Cardiology; **Maria Ramos-Roman, M.D.**, an Associate Professor in the Division of Endocrinology; **Philipp Scherer, Ph.D.**, a Professor and Director of the Touchstone Diabetes Center; **Kevin Williams, Ph.D.**, an Associate Professor and member of the Center for Hypothalamic Research; and Endocrinology Fellow **Shuyao “Susan” Zhang, M.D.**

Dr. McGuire, a Distinguished Teaching Professor, holds the Jere H. Mitchell, M.D. Distinguished Chair in Cardiovascular Science.

Dr. Scherer holds the Gifford O. Touchstone, Jr. and Randolph G. Touchstone Distinguished Chair in Diabetes Research, and the Touchstone/West Distinguished Chair in Diabetes Research.



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in case you missed it

MEDBLOG

Geriatrics COVE Team Makes House Calls for Older People – and Reduces Hospital Readmissions



“With nearly 12 percent of Dallas County residents being 65 or older, a large population in our community is struggling to get the primary and preventive care they need,” writes **Namirah Jamshed, M.D.**, an Associate Professor in the Division of Geriatric Medicine and Program Director of the Geriatric Medicine Fellowship. “As of 2023, 20 percent of adults 65 and older in the U.S. have a disability that interferes with activities of daily living, such as walking, dressing, and independently using the toilet. At the same time, hospital readmissions – getting sent back to the hospital after an illness or surgery – have become a major stressor for patients and health systems.”

In her MedBlog post, Dr. Jamshed describes UTSW’s home-based primary care program, Care of the Vulnerable Elderly (COVE), which launched in 2015 to provide ongoing health care and reduce the need for hospital readmission.

“Research suggests that house call programs like COVE could lower hospital readmissions by 21 percent, reduce nursing home use by nearly 90 percent, and save \$2,000 in Medicare costs per patient each year,” she says. “In nine years, COVE has grown from 70 patients to 450, and we are expecting to expand along with the aging population – people 65 and older are the fastest-growing age group in Texas.”

Dr. Jamshed holds the Professorship in Geriatric Medicine, in Honor of Vivienne Roche, M.D.

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

Articles and Videos Featuring Internal Medicine Colleagues

- [Science in 60+: Food is Medicine](#) (Via *Center Times Plus*, with **Jaelyn Albin, M.D.**)
- [Semaglutide Lowers Cardiovascular Risk Regardless of Blood Sugar](#) (Via UTSW Newsroom, with **Ildiko Lingvay, M.D., M.P.H., M.S.C.S.**)

reminders

PHYSICIAN RECOGNITION

Nominations Being Accepted for Leaders in Clinical Excellence Awards



Nominations are being accepted through **Tuesday, July 23**, for the 2024 Leaders in Clinical Excellence Awards.

Established in 2018, these awards recognize clinical faculty for their exceptional contributions to the care of patients, to the education and training of the next generation of health care professionals, and to UT Southwestern overall.

"We invite and encourage you to help us identify UTSW clinical faculty who merit special recognition and who are deserving of any of the seven awards," says **Daniel K. Podolsky, M.D.**, President of UT Southwestern and a Professor in the Division

of Digestive and Liver Diseases.

The 2024 awards ceremony will be held in person on **Thursday, Nov. 14**, in the Tom and Lula Gooch Auditorium, with an option to join virtually.

For more details, click [here](#).

ADVANCED PRACTICE PROVIDERS

APP Achievement Award Nominations Accepted Through July 26

To recognize the achievements made by UT Southwestern advanced practice providers (APPs), the Office of Advanced Practice Providers invites nominations for one of five Outstanding Achievement Awards.

Nominations are being accepted **through July 26**. One APP will be selected for each of five categories: teaching, clinical practice, leadership, community and professional advocacy, and scholarly endeavors.

Nominees will be presented anonymously to the APP Recognition committee for final selection. Winners will be announced at the APP Celebration Week event on **Thursday, Sept. 26**.

To learn more about the awards and to submit a nomination, click [here](#). To learn more about APP Celebration Week, click [here](#).

happening today

HONORS

Adjunct Faculty Member to Receive Dominican Recognition Today



A delegation from the Dominican Society of Endocrinology and Nutrition (SODENN) will be on campus today to confer the Order of Christopher Columbus on **Jaime Davidson, M.D.**, a Clinical Professor in the Division of Endocrinology and the Touchstone Diabetes Center. The ceremony is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. in the NC8 conference room.

Dr. Davidson was honored by Dominican President Luis Abinader for his "remarkable achievements and contributions in the field of endocrinology, diabetes, and nutrition throughout [his] career, and for being a pioneer in the advancement of diabetes and endocrinology in the Dominican Republic,"

according to SODENN.

Originally from San Jose, Costa Rica, Dr. Davidson graduated with honors from the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico. He completed internal medicine residency training at Scott & White Memorial Hospital and received advanced training in endocrinology at Indiana University School of Medicine.

INTERNAL MEDICINE GRAND ROUNDS

Harvard's Steven Grinspoon to Speak about REPRIEVE Trial on June 28



Steven Grinspoon, M.D., a Professor of Medicine in the Division of Nutrition at Harvard Medical School, will present the [Internal Medicine Grand Rounds](#) lecture on 'Friday, June 28, at 8 a.m. in D1.502. His topic: "Cardiovascular Disease Prevention Among PWH in 2024: Lessons from the REPRIEVE Trial."

Dr. Grinspoon earned his medical degree at the University of Rochester School of Medicine. He completed medical residency training at Columbia Presbyterian and a Fellowship in endocrinology at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Dr. Grinspoon also serves as Director of the Nutrition Obesity Research Center at Harvard, and Unit Chief of the Metabolism Unit at Massachusetts General Hospital, where he investigates the neuroendocrine regulation of body composition, and physiologic consequences of fat distribution on cardiovascular disease and inflammation.

Dr. Grinspoon is leading the large multicenter REPRIEVE study, the first study of a primary prevention strategy for cardiovascular disease in HIV.

Noteworthy Lectures & Conferences

- **Friday, June 28, Noon:** Hematology & Oncology Grand Rounds with **Dr. Mary Gwin** (Internal Medicine Residency) – "From Smoking to Survival in a Real-world Lung Cancer Screening Population"



Internal Medicine Events Calendar

[Click to view additional events](#)

Look for the next *Medicine Minute* on **Tuesday, July 2**.
Share feedback and news items with us at IMNews@UTSouthwestern.edu

