

medicine minute

Tuesday, October 22, 2024

announcements

HONORS

Arteaga Elected to National Academy of Medicine



Carlos L. Arteaga, M.D., a Professor in the Division of Hematology and Oncology, Director of the Harold C. Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center and Associate Dean of Oncology Programs, was formally elected to the National Academy of Medicine, one of the highest honors in health and medicine.

Dr. Arteaga is renowned for his innovative breast cancer research, leading to molecularly targeted therapies like PI3K inhibitors. His work has advanced understanding of breast cancer pathways, drug resistance, and novel treatments. He discovered TGF β 's role in breast cancer progression and

contributed to the first FDA-approved combination of antiestrogens and PI3K inhibitors for ER-positive PIK3CA mutant breast cancers.

Dr. Arteaga joined the UT Southwestern faculty in 2017.

Dr. Arteaga holds the Annette Simmons Distinguished University Chair in Breast Cancer Research.

research roundup

PUBLICATIONS

Study Indicates Safety of Kidney Transplantation from Donors with HIV



Patients with HIV suffer a high burden of end-stage kidney disease and often face long waiting times for kidney transplantation. The results of [a study published in *The New England Journal of Medicine*](#) co-authored by **David Wojciechowski, D.O.**, Medical Director of the Kidney Transplantation Program, showed transplanting kidneys from donors with HIV in persons with HIV appeared to be as safe as that from donors without HIV.

The observational study involved 198 participants across 26 sites.

“This is the first published clinical trial looking at the use of HIV-positive kidneys in HIV-positive patients,” says Dr. Wojciechowski, a Professor in the Division of Nephrology. “it shows that the use of HIV-positive kidneys in recipients who are HIV positive is safe and provides excellent patient and graft outcomes.”

Given the organ shortage, this provides another opportunity to help a patient with HIV undergo a successful transplant.”

GRANTS

Pence Funded to Develop Probe for Examining Pelvic Organ Prolapse



Isaac Pence, Ph.D., an Assistant Professor in the Division of Nephrology, has received a Berns-SPIE SPARK grant to support developing a fiber optic probe to examine the make-up and quality of pelvic floor tissue quickly and painlessly. This tool could be used during annual well-woman exams to help predict which women will develop pelvic organ prolapse and to help guide doctors on the best treatment for each patient, before invasive surgery is needed.

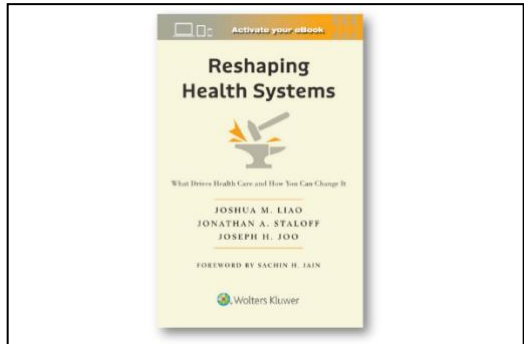
Dr. Pence, whose primary appointment is in the Department of Biomedical Engineering, also holds an appointment in the Charles and Jane Pak Center for Mineral Metabolism and

Clinical Research. He received his doctorate in biomedical engineering from Vanderbilt University, where he developed and translated label-free noninvasive optical tools for surgical guidance and Raman spectroscopic characterization of numerous tissues and diseases, including inflammatory bowel disease and skin cancer.

noteworthy

PUBLICATIONS

Liao's Forthcoming Book Focuses on Reshaping Health Systems



Joshua Liao, M.D., M.Sc., a Professor of Internal Medicine and Chief of the William T. and Gay F. Solomon Division of General Internal Medicine, has co-authored *Reshaping Health Systems: What Drives Health Care and How You Can Change It*, which will be published in November.

“This book was a labor of love for me – a clinician with a blend of leadership, research, policy, and educational experiences working on health systems issues,” Dr. Liao says. “My intention was to design a book that would be useful to clinicians, health care leaders, and trainees at all levels; be relevant for self-study or structured curricular teaching; and be consumable

whether read cover to cover, or as needed for reference in practice or educational settings.”

Written through the lens of a clinician who desires to enact changes to address problems and improve care delivery, the book aims to meet what Dr. Liao perceives as a major need in health care education.

“Health systems topics are excluded from much of medical education, creating an overall dearth of useful resources,” Dr. Liao says. “Existing resources are often fragmented across different disciplines, leaving clinicians and trainees the challenging task of piecing together information on their own from disparate disciplines and fields into useful, applied knowledge. Moreover, the few available resources framed explicitly on health systems are often theory-driven and conceptual, far from the real-world and lived experiences of clinicians and trainees. A practical, unified health systems resource was needed. That's what this book aspires to be.”

To pre-order the book, click [here](#).

Dr. Liao holds the Walter Family Distinguished Chair in Internal Medicine in Honor of Albert D. Roberts, M.D.

kudos

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Diep Earns National Certification in Nephrology



Sandy Diep, M.S.N., APRN, FNP-BC, CNN-NP, an Advanced Practice Provider in the Division of Nephrology, is the first APP at UT Southwestern and the 10th in the state of Texas to be certified by the Nephrology Nursing Certification Commission.

A board-certified nurse practitioner, she completed her bachelor's degree in nursing at Texas Woman's University (TWU) and then earned a master's degree in nursing from the TWU T. Boone Pickens Institute of Health Sciences – Dallas Center. She is a member of the Texas Nurse Practitioners, National Kidney Foundation, and American Nephrology Nurses Association.

Her clinical interests include glomerular nephritis and sickle cell disease.

TECHNOLOGY

Arafat Presents at Clinical Trial Matching Summit



Waddah Arafat, M.D., an Associate Professor in the Division of Hematology and Oncology and Medical Director of the Clinical Cancer Informatics Program at the Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center, recently joined industry representatives and patient advocates in Washington, D.C., to discuss the Blue-button Clinical Trail Matching project, launched by the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN).

The Blue-button tool can automatically identify relevant clinical trials through one-button clinical trial matching integration within electronic health records (EHRs). ACS CAN partnered with the nonprofit MITRE organization to create the tool's functionality. With just a few clicks in a medical record, the Blue-button tool has the potential to quickly identify comprehensive trial availability within a specified distance from where the patient is located, and by doing so will increase opportunities for patients to maximize access to the latest cancer innovation within their community.

To learn more about the Blue-button Clinical Matching Trial for Cancer patients, click [here](#).

education and training

OBSERVANCES

International Medical Graduate Recognition Week



Currently, 36 International Medical Graduate (IMG) physicians are receiving internal medicine residency training at UT Southwestern. We honor them during International Medical Graduate Physician's Recognition Week, **Oct. 21-25**, for their determination to complete medical training.

IMG physicians play an essential role in the delivery of healthcare services. Having a disruption to the flow of IMGs who practice medicine in the U.S. would cause a tremendous change in medicine and affect the lives of patients, according to the American Medical Association.

To see a full-size, printable version of the IMG composite, click [here](#).



Internal Medicine News Portal
Click for more Department news and updates

in case you missed it

MEDBLOG

Jamshed Discusses Super-Agers in Latest Blog



“There is an assumption that, as we age, our memory inevitably slips,” says **Namirah Jamshed, M.D., M.Sc.**, a Professor in the Division of Geriatric Medicine and Director of the Geriatric Fellowship program. “But while most people consider the occasional memory lapse a normal part of growing older, we all know at least a few 80- or 90-year-olds who represent the other end of the spectrum: a subgroup of people affectionately referred to as “super-agers...who have the same memory and cognitive function as someone 20 or 30 years their junior.”

Dr. Jamshed, who also directs Care of the Vulnerable Elderly (COVE), UT Southwestern's home-based primary care program, discusses the traits super-agers have in common, including sociability, focus, and autonomy.

“By studying the biology, genetics, and lifestyle habits of this group, we may be able to help our patients achieve better cognitive and physical health, plus a higher quality of life, well into their 80s, 90s, and beyond,” she says.

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

News and Digital Media Featuring Internal Medicine Colleagues

- [How mpox has Spread from the Democratic Republic of Congo to Neighboring Countries](#) (via the BBC, with **Krutika Kuppalli, M.D.**)
- [A Recipe for Successful Food is Medicine Programs: Food Plus People](#) (via *Health Affairs*, with **Jaclyn Albin, M.D.**)
- [Heart Disease Experts in Their Own Words: “This is Solvable and This is Preventable”](#) (via *Stat*, with **Ann Marie Navar, M.D., Ph.D.**)

- [New Study Finds Increase in Breast Cancer Among Younger Women](#) (via KERA, with **Glenda Delgado, M.D.**)

this week

INTERNAL MEDICINE GRAND ROUNDS

Tatara to Discuss Biomaterials on Oct. 25



Alexander Tatara, M.D., Ph.D., an Assistant Professor in the Division of Infectious Diseases and Geographic Medicine, will present the [Internal Medicine Grand Rounds](#) lecture on **Friday, Oct. 25, at 8 a.m. in D1.502**. His topic: “An Internist’s Guide to Biomaterials.”

Originally from Illinois, Dr. Tatara holds a bachelor’s degree in biomedical engineering from Washington University in St. Louis. He received his Ph.D. in bioengineering at Rice University in Houston and his medical degree from Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. He completed internal medicine residency training at Massachusetts General Hospital and infectious diseases fellowship training at Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston. He completed his post-doctoral fellowship training at the Harvard University Wyss Institute for Biologically Inspired Engineering and the Harvard School of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

Dr. Tatara’s research interests include the design of new biomaterials, tissue engineering strategies, mechanisms of pathogen virulence, and immuno-engineering to prevent and treat infection. His clinical expertise includes bone and joint infections, and medical implant infections.

Dr. Tatara joined the UT Southwestern faculty in 2024.

INTERNAL MEDICINE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Gruber to Lecture on Designing Drugs for Breast Cancer on Oct. 25



Joshua Gruber, M.D., Ph.D., an Assistant Professor in the Division of Hematology and Oncology, will speak during the [Internal Medicine Research Conference](#) on **Friday, Oct. 25, at noon in D1.502**. His topic: “Designing Drugs for Breast Cancer.”

Dr. Gruber earned his medical degree and doctoral degree in cancer biology and biochemistry at the University of Pennsylvania. He completed a residency in internal medicine at Stanford University in California, where he also received advanced training through a clinical fellowship in medical oncology and a research fellowship in systems biology of cancer epigenetics.

His research focuses on the molecular biology of breast cancer initiation, exploring how tumor immunology intersects with cancer growth pathways, and developing molecular tools to study neoplastic tissues. Additionally, he investigates gene regulation, particularly how cancer epigenetics intersects with cellular metabolism. His work aims to devise new methods to understand how metabolic products influence chromatin landscapes and to develop new chemical probes to study this process.

Dr. Gruber joined the UT Southwestern faculty in 2021.

Noteworthy Lectures & Conferences

- **Thursday, Oct. 24, Noon:** [Radiology Grand Rounds](#) with **Dr. Maxim Itkin** (University of Pennsylvania) – “Advancements in Lymphatic Imaging and Interventions: Pioneering Techniques and Future Directions”
- **Thursday, Oct. 24, Noon:** [Vertically Integrated Programs in Cancer \(VIP-C\) Panelist Discussion](#) with **Drs. Natalie Bavli, Yazan Madanat, Sangeetha Reddy, and Navid Sadeghi** (Hematology & Oncology) – “The Many Roads of Academic Oncology”
- **Friday, Oct. 25, Noon:** [Hematology & Oncology Grand Rounds](#) with **Dr. Sean Taasan** (Hematology & Oncology) – “Beyond the Chalk Talk: Exploring the Intersection of Medical Education and Hematology/Oncology”
- **Friday, Oct. 25, 1 p.m.:** [Endocrine Grand Rounds](#) with **Dr. Suraj Patel** (Digestive & Liver Diseases) – “Immunoregulation of Metabolism in Fatty Liver Disease”



Internal Medicine Events Calendar

[Click to view additional events](#)

on the horizon

LEADERSHIP LECTURE SERIES

Bajaj, Reed to Speak About Quality Improvement on Nov. 12



The Leadership Lecture Series continues on **Tuesday, Nov. 12, at noon** with a presentation by **Puneet Bajaj, M.D., M.P.H.**, an Associate Professor in the Division of Rheumatology and Internal Medicine Quality Officer, and **Gary Reed, M.D., M.S.**, a Professor in the William T. and Gay F. Solomon Division of General Internal Medicine. Their topic: Quality Improvement.

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

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

reminders

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

Annual Liver Conference Set for Dec. 7



The Division of Digestive and Liver Diseases will host its 8th Annual Update on Liver Diseases on **Saturday, Dec. 7**, at the Renaissance Dallas Hotel.

The annual course, co-directed by **Amit Singal, M.D.**, and **Indira Bhavsar-Burke, M.D.**, will update providers on a diverse range of topics including evaluation of liver tests, non-invasive markers of fibrosis, viral hepatitis, autoimmune liver disease, alcohol and metabolic associated fatty liver disease, cirrhosis, portal hypertension, primary liver cancer and liver transplantation. The conference focuses on recent advances,

publications and expert opinions. In addition to didactic lectures, case presentations are included to make the activity interactive and practical.

To learn more about the conference, click [here](#). To register for the conference, click [here](#).

Look for the next *Medicine Minute* on **Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2024**.
Share feedback and news items with us at IMNews@UTSouthwestern.edu

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