

Family Medicine Matters

Change has come rapidly to Iowa this spring. Winter finally relented in March giving our 3 month white blanket of snow a hopefully long and deserved rest. Change also came rapidly to our nation's health care system in the form of new legislation called the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act on March 23, 2010. While there is much to be ambivalent about in this legislation, there is the hope that this law can begin to turn our health care system in a different direction. Patients may one day have protection from insurance practices intended to limit their coverage while maintaining profitability, or that increase premiums in the face of illness where someone cannot maintain their coverage. These are good things. What is not clear is whether this legislation will make health care more affordable for our nation, or simply drive up health care costs because of the greater number of insured patients.

The legislation does offer an opportunity for improved quality at reduced costs through implementation of the patient centered medical home and renewed reliance on a health care system with primary care as its foundation. However, much needs to occur to make this a reality. More family doctors will need to be trained and thus far, allopathic medical schools in the United States are not changing their admissions programs or curriculum to support this increased need. Payment reform will be needed and this is not yet in place. Fundamental changes will be needed to reward quality, and not simply greater volume of highly profitable procedures. Time will tell if the legislation will make good on its promises, and that will be at least 3 years.

The Department of Family Medicine is preparing for changes as we seek to implement the patient centered medical home in our clinical practice, our educational systems and our research. Grants are being submitted and we are optimistic that we will begin to introduce more elements of the PCMH in the near future. It is the time of season to sow many seeds. We in the Department wish all of you a productive growing season.



Paul James, MD
Professor and Head
Dept. of Family Medicine

Department of Family Medicine Mission Statement

Through excellence in teaching, research, and patient care, we will be leaders in the discovery, development and dissemination of new knowledge and innovative clinical teaching models in family medicine in order to improve the health and well being of patients, families and communities we serve. Application of our scope of activities will be statewide, national and global.

Departmental News

ACCREDITATION—The DFM Residency Program and the DFM Geriatric Fellowship Program were reviewed by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education in September, 2009, and both recently received the maximum five years of accreditation.

RESIDENCY LEADERSHIP—**Dr. Kate Thoma** was named Associate Residency Program Director.

RESIDENCY MATCH—The DFM Residency Program is happy to announce that they filled all positions through the National Resident Matching System. Our new incoming Residents are:

Family Medicine Class of 2013: **Meghan Connett**—Univ. of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine

Angela Farrell—Univ. of Iowa Carver College of Medicine

Bonte Gbemudu—School of Medicine at Stony Brook Univ. Medical Center

Jennifer Lamps—Univ. of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

Juana Nicoll Toscano—Universidad Ricardo Palma (Lima, Peru)

Christopher Schuster—Univ. of Iowa Carver College of Medicine

Family Medicine-Psychiatry Class of 2015: **Jennifer Miller Meyer**—Univ. of Iowa Carver College of Medicine

Matthew Morris—Univ. of Oklahoma College of Medicine, Oklahoma City

SPORTS MEDICINE FELLOWSHIP—**Dr. Kyle Smoot** has submitted our department's application to ACGME for a Primary Care Sports Medicine Fellowship, with an anticipated start in July, 2010.

New Staff Members

- ◆ **Anne Gaglioti, MD** has joined the DFM as a Clinical Assistant Professor. Dr. Gaglioti received her MD at Case Western Reserve University, where she also did her residency training. She received fellowship training in Primary Care Health Policy and Faculty Development at Georgetown University. She comes to us from the University of California at San Francisco, where she has been an Assistant Clinical Professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine, Correctional Medicine Consultation Network.
- ◆ **Britt Marcussen, MD** has rejoined our department as a Clinical Assistant Professor, providing care in the Family Medicine Clinic and the Sports Medicine Clinic.
- ◆ **John Nichols, MA** has joined the DFM as a Research Assistant I. He has held previous research positions at the University and has most recently worked as a project editor for Buckle Down Publishing in Iowa City.

The DFM Merriment Committee

A year and a half ago the members of a newly-created dept. committee, dubbed "The Merriment Committee," started thinking up ways to bring some smiles and surprises to members of the DFM. Who can forget "Lemon Tree Day" ("when the budget gives you lemons...make lemonade!")? Or the Ugliest Ornament Competition last December? Or the "Just Because" Party held during yet another depressingly frigid, snowy January this year? The creative and fun-loving department members who bring us all this merriment are: **Jo Bowers, Joan Farstad, Patty Gereau, Rita Justis, and Amy Miranda.** (Former DFM member Julie Jones was also on the committee.) We thank these merry women for making our time at work just a little less stressful and a little more fun!

Residency Graduates' News

Roger Bermingham (1980) writes: "Over several years I have morphed into doing primarily geriatrics. I am on the faculty of the Fort Collins Family Practice Family Practice Residency where I am in charge of training in geriatrics, ethics, professionalism, medical humanities, and medical Spanish."

David Cranston (1980) reports: "I am still working, but planning to retire or semi-retire at end of this year, although I said the same about Dec. 2009. I am currently working at Grinnell Regional as part-time VP of Medical Services and most of time family doc in a couple clinics the hospital runs. I was an ER doc for about 6 years here in Grinnell, but mainly family medicine since then."

Ron Feldmann (1982) who works at Kishwaukee Medical Associates in Sycamore, Illinois, writes: "I continued to be in private practice in the same town since finishing my Iowa FP Residency in 1982. I stopped doing OB 3 years ago, but continue to enjoy the rest of Family Medicine. I have had the opportunity to do several mission trips to Panama and Guatemala. Still a Hawkeye fan living in Illinois!"

Residency Graduates' News, continued

Scott Kronlund (1986) reports from Puyallup, Washington: "I am currently serving as the CMO for Northwest Physician Network, a 475 physician member Independent Physician Association working to build one of the nation's first virtual Accountable Care Organizations."

Charles Lonsdorf (1980) writes from Wisconsin: "I would like to thank the UI Family Medicine Residency program for 3 great years—and then some! You have given me my lifelong profession and my wife, Eileen—whom I met on rounds at Mercy Hospital. We now have 3 grown children and have logged 29 years of marriage and 32 years of medical life together. Of this, Dr. Champion would say 'Charlie, I'm surprised at you.' (he used to say that often) We miss our friends in Iowa but have enjoyed our practice site in Minocqua so much that we seldom return. Warm regards and best wishes for your future success."

Dave Ramsey (1976) reports from Lipan, Texas: "I'm pretty much retired now and my daughter-in-law Alice runs the office. Stay busy on the ranch with cows and horses. Have 4 grandkids that keep us busy."

Nancy Stewart (1982) writes: "I retired from my practice in 2008. I continue with part-time consulting at our local Integrative Medicine Center and my job as a part-time preceptor in the Family Medicine residency at St. Joseph's Hospital, Syracuse (affiliated with Upstate Medical Center.) My husband, Ray Terepka, is also semi-retired and is doing part-time radiology locums work. Our two older Children, Mike and Amy, are a fishing guide and massage therapist/gymnastics and dance instructor. Our youngest, Nate, is a senior at Skidmore College. Ray and I enjoy regular hiking with our golden retriever. Our best to all!"

Pamela Talley (1994) reports: "I am living outside Boulder, Colorado where Pete and I both work for the University—he as a professor of communication and me at the student health center. Our boys (both delivered by Charlie Driscoll) are now 14 and 16, busy with school, hockey and lacrosse."

Alumni Reception at the Refresher Course for the Family Physician, April 8, 2010



Paul Jones, Jennifer Jones (2005),
Kelly Skelly (1995)



Michelle Weckmann (2005), Linda Hoover (Residency Coordinator),
Andrea Venteicher (2006)



Paul James, Amy Lindaman (2008),
Kate Thoma (2008), David Bedell



Carver Nebbe (2006), David Shearer (2004),
Jeff Hunter (2002), Jason Wilbur (2002)



Cristina Richards (Residency Program Secretary) and Michael Maharry (1999)



Alison Abreu (2003) and Sarah Thomas (2000)

Publications

1. **Carter BL**, Doucette WR, Franciscus CL et al. Deterioration of blood pressure control after discontinuation of a physician-pharmacist collaborative intervention. *Pharmacotherapy*. 2010;30(3):228-235.
 2. Christensen AJ, Howren MB, Hillis SL, Kaboli P, **Carter BL**, et al. Patient and physician beliefs about control over health: association of symmetrical beliefs with medication regimen adherence. *J Gen Intern Med*. 2010. Feb 20. [Epub ahead of print]
 3. **Daly JM, Levy BT, Merchant ML, Wilbur J**. Mailed fecal-immunochemical test for colon cancer screening. *J Community Health*. 2010. Feb 2. [Epub ahead of print]
 4. **Ely JW**, Seabury Stone M. The generalized rash: part II. Diagnostic approach. *Am Fam Phys*. 2010; 81(6):735-739.
 5. **Ely JW**, Seabury Stone M. The generalized rash: part I: Differential diagnosis. *Am Fam Phys*. 2010; 81(6): 726-734.
 6. **Ernst ME, Carter BL, Zheng S**, Grimm RH Jr. Meta-analysis of dose-response characteristics of hydrochlorothiazide and chlorthalidone: effects on systolic blood pressure and potassium. *Am J Hypertens*. 2010;23(4):440-446.
 7. Fravel MA, **Ernst ME, Bergus GR**. Psychological effect of ambulatory blood pressure monitoring. *Am J Health Syst Pharm*. 2010; 67(5):343, 347.
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8. Bruch LA, DeYoung BR, **Kreiter CD** et al. Competency assessment of residents in surgical pathology using virtual microscopy. *Hum Pathol*. 2009; 40(8):1122-1128.
 9. **Carter BL, Ernst ME**. Thiazide-induced hyperglycemia: can it be prevented? *Am J Hypertens*. 2009;22(5):473.
 10. **Carter BL**. Fixed-dosed combinations are not indicated as initial therapy: a debate. *J Clin Hypertens (Greenwich)*. 2009;11(2):94-99.
 11. **Ernst ME**, Moser M. Use of diuretics in patients with hypertension. *N Engl J Med*. 2009;361(22):2153-2164.
 12. **Ernst ME**. Nighttime blood pressure is the blood pressure. *Pharmacotherapy*. 2009; 29(1):3-6.
 13. **Ernst ME, Carter BL**, Basile JN. All thiazide-like diuretics are not chlorthalidone: putting the ACCOMPLISH study into perspective. *J Clin Hypertens (Greenwich)*. 2009;11(1):5-10.
 14. **Pallone SR, Bergus GR**. Fertility awareness-based methods: another option for family planning. *J Am Board Fam Med*. 2009;22(2):147-157.
 15. Philbrick AM, **Ernst ME**, et al. Metformin use in renal dysfunction: is a serum creatinine threshold appropriate? *Am J Health Syst Pharm*. 2009;66(22):2017-2023.

Student National Medical Association Conference

Dr. Paul James and **Dr. Denise Adams, R2**, represented the DFM at the SNMA Annual Medical Education Conference in Chicago in early April. Both spoke at the UI Health Care Recruitment Reception on April 2nd where the DFM was the “Spotlight Department.” The Student National Medical Association is “the nation’s oldest and largest independent student-run organization focused on the needs and concerns of medical students of color.” Having representatives from our department at this conference was one of the goals for the DFM as outlined in the *UI CCOM Strategic Plan for Increasing Diversity 2009-2013*. **Dedra Diehl** is the DFM representative working with the Office of Cultural Affairs and Diversity Initiatives in the Carver College of Medicine.

The DFM Times

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