

Boston Medical Center/ Boston University School of Medicine

# Department of Medicine Newsletter

## Message from the Chairman

Colleagues,

Welcome to the Spring edition of the Department of Medicine's e-newsletter! In this edition, we celebrate another very successful intern match for our department's residency program. The leadership of the residency program worked diligently to attract the most accomplished and diverse candidates from among over 4800 applicants. We also acknowledge several distinguished awards received by our faculty and the large number of presentations by the leadership of our educational programs at the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine Annual meeting in San Antonio.

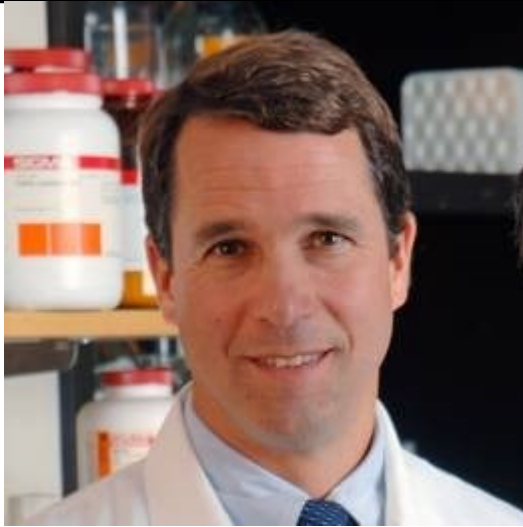
As we enter the final quarter of the academic year, we have many reasons to be thankful. Our clinical programs continue to grow and improve in quality. Our research funding is nearly double that of AY 17 and on pace for a record year. We have attracted an outstanding academic leader to our Hematology-Oncology Section-Dr. Matt Kulke (see bio in the newsletter). In addition, we have several prominent candidates for the Section Chief positions in Infectious Diseases and Nephrology. I greatly appreciate the devotion and commitment to excellence exhibited by each of you in all of your activities.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of the electronic newsletter.

David Coleman, M.D.



## Announcements



**Dr. Matthew Kulke** has joined the Department of Medicine as the Chief for the Hematology / Oncology Section

Dr. Kulke was serving as the Director of the Program in Neuroendocrine and Carcinoid Tumors at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and a Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. A leader in the research and treatment of neuroendocrine tumors, he has received numerous awards for his accomplishments as a clinical investigator and provider of compassionate care to patient.

Dr. Kulke received his undergraduate degree from Princeton University, his MD from University of California, San Francisco School of Medicine and a master's degree in medical science from Harvard Medical School.

He completed his residency at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Internal Medicine and a fellowship in medical oncology at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

**Welcome Dr. Kulke!**

## Announcements

### Faculty Development Grants

#### Faculty Development & Diversity Grants

- Open to ALL DOM FACULTY at all levels seeking to further their professional development in research, education, clinical skills, and/or leadership
- Next deadline is April 15th
- <http://www.bumc.bu.edu/facdev-medicine/grants/>

#### Education Pilot Grant

- \$1000-\$5000 grants to fund innovative projects and research in education
- Grant recipients participate in a 6-session writing course to support their project & manuscript development
- Deadline is May 1, 2018
- <http://www.bumc.bu.edu/facdev-medicine/grants/education-pilot-grants/>

## Announcements

### Women's Leadership Program

**Target Audience:** BUMC women faculty in leadership roles

**Number of Faculty:** Up to 20 per year

**Program Structure:**

- Meets for 15 two-hour sessions from September to June

**Program Elements:**

- **Experiential seminars** on leadership skills and fostering change as a woman leader
- **Peer mentoring & coaching** to successfully negotiate challenges, foster resiliency, and achieve goals
- **Conversation Cafes** with inspirational leaders

*Applications accepted March 19th-April 16th, 2018*

### URM Faculty Development Program

**Target Audience:** BUMC under-represented minority in medicine\* faculty

**Number of Faculty:** Up to 20 per year

**Program Structure:**

- Meetings monthly for 1.5 hours from October-June

**Program Elements:**

- **Experiential seminars** focused on career and leadership development skills, and the experiences of URM faculty
- **Participant-led forums** on navigating a career in academic medicine as a URM faculty member
- **Individual career coaching** to identify resources and mentors, successfully negotiate challenges and achieve identified goals

*Applications accepted April 2nd -April 30th , 2018*

\*NIH defines URM: Blacks or African Americans, Hispanics or Latinos, American Indians/Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders.

## DOM Happenings

### BU-BMC Cancer Seminar Series

#### **“Updates from the National Cancer Institute”**

*Norman E. Sharpless, M.D.*

*Director, National Cancer Institute*

*National Institutes of Health*

*Bethesda, Maryland*

**Monday, May 7 2018**

**Noon - 1:00 PM**

Boston University School of Medicine  
Evans Building, Keefer Auditorium, E-111



### **Invitation for Educators to Join Online Manuscript Writing Course**

Do you have a paper you want to write, but have been unsure of where to start? The Education Evaluation Core is running an online-based manuscript writing course to help you go from a blank Word document to a finished paper using a series of easy-to-manage steps and assignments. If you are interested in being part of this course, please email the Core Director Lindsay Demers at [ldemers@bu.edu](mailto:ldemers@bu.edu) by 4/30.

## DOM Happenings



### ***Zhong, Xuemei, MD***

IgG antibodies have been the dominant antibody used in immunotherapy of cancer to target tumor associated antigens (TAA) or check point biomarkers. In the past decade, however, more and more evidence has begun to emerge, suggesting that naturally occurring IgM antibodies (nIgM) are what our immune system ordinarily designed to handle damaged or cancerous cells. Dr. Xuemei Zhong's lab (Med Campus) in collaboration with Dr. Joyce Wong's lab (CRC Campus) has been awarded the CTSI pilot grant to develop a novel rapid isolation method to isolate and clone nIgM-producing cancer fighting B cells from human tissue.

[Please see this 3 min video that summarizes the project background.](#)

## DOM Dim Sum

On Saturday, March 3, 2018, the Department of Medicine hosted its annual “Celebration of Diversity!” The Dim Sum event provides an opportunity to celebrate all the richness and benefits we get from being a diverse community. The event was held in Boston’s Chinatown-Leather District at the China Pearl Restaurant, where over 100 guests enjoyed a sampling of traditional Dim Sum. Drs. David Coleman, David Salant & Barbara Corkey welcomed faculty, staff and their families. The room was filled with smiling faces, pleasant conversation and the wafting aroma of sweet egg tarts and tulips!



## Alliance of Academic Internal Medicine (AAIM) Week in San Antonio, TX March 18-22, 2018



**AAIM WEEK 2018  
San Antonio, TX**

| <b>DOM Presenter(s)</b>  | <b>Poster Sessions</b>  |
|--|---|
| Laurie Dubois, C-TAGME   | Program Coordinator Professional Development: Perception of Importance, Motivating Factors and Barriers |
| James Hudspeth, MD<br>Nicholas Bosch, MD<br>Rachel Simmons, MD<br>Gopal Yadavalli, MD<br>Ashish Upadhyay, MD | Use of a Novel Presentation Approach to Improve Teaching Round on Inpatient Medicine Teams              |
| James Meisel, MD<br>Sheilah Bernard, MD<br>Hugo Carmona, MD  | Building Competence - An Active-Learning Approach   |

## Alliance of Academic Internal Medicine (AAIM) Week in San Antonio, TX March 18-22, 2018

| DOM Presenter(s)                               | Workshop and Plenary Topics  |
|--|--|
| Sonia Ananthakrishnan, MD                      | Implementation: Curriculum Development 101 Precourse   |
| David Coleman, MD                              | Recruiting Ambulatory Faculty  |
| Laurie Dubois, C-TAGME                         | Creating a Culture of Accountability: It All Starts with YOU   |
| Kelly Ho<br>Jenny Siegel, MD                   | Stop, Collaborate and Listen: Connecting Program Administrators and Faculty Educators Across Traditional Lines               |
| Mackenzie Keyse                                | How Do They Do That: Alumni Relations  |
| Craig Noronha, MD<br>Sonia Ananthakrishnan, MD | Creating a Universal Language—Development of a Longitudinal Feedback Curriculum for Student to Resident to Fellow to Faculty |
| Craig Noronha, MD                              | Morning Report Session   |
| Craig Noronha, MD                              | Unique Ambulatory Schedules: Precourse on Designing a High Quality Ambulatory Education Program                              |
| Jenny Siegel, MD                               | Walking the Tightrope: Achieving Balance Between Direct Observation and the Busy Ambulatory Setting                          |
| Rachel Simmons, MD                             | Morning Report: 16 Simultaneous Sessions (organizer)   |
| Gopal Yadavalli, MD                            | Developing a Humanities Curriculum: Precourse on Designing a High Quality Ambulatory Education Program                       |
| Gopal Yadavalli, MD                            | Negotiation and Conflict Resolution  |

Interested in becoming a member of AAIM? For more information on AAIM visit [www.im.org](http://www.im.org). The DOM has an institutional membership which means we can enroll and include all qualified faculty and staff on our membership roster at no additional fee. AAIM provides its members with access to professional development and educational opportunities, high quality programs, and outstanding publications and online resources, all of which promote networking, collaborations and the sharing of best practices.

To become a member just email [this form](#) to [Erin McCarthy](#).

## Congratulations To All Award Recipients!

**Dr. Lillian McMahon** has been selected as The Greater Boston Sickle Cell Disease Association 2018 Distinguished Service Award Honoree, for her ongoing commitment to improving health outcomes for individuals living with Sickle Cell Disease.



**Dr. Maureen Dubreuil** was awarded the Spondylitis Association of America Early Career Investigator Award



**Dr. Ryan Chippendale** won the 2018 Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine award



**Dr. Steven C. Borkan** is the winner of an Ignition Award, which is designed to validate early-stage projects with clear commercial and medical potential

Title: *Novel Phospho-Proteomics Approach to Improve Acute Kidney Injury Diagnostics*

This technology will enable early detection of ischemic acute kidney injury and guide its effective treatment. Detecting and treating the pathways involved in renal cell death may have broader implications for other organs that are also susceptible to ischemic injury.

## Congratulations To All Award Recipients!

### CU-CTSI Fall 2017 Pilot Awardees

Boston University Clinical and Translational Science Institute (BU-CTSI) is pleased to announce the recipients of the Fall 2017 Integrated Pilot Grant Program.

Each awardee received \$20,000 in funding. The CTSI would like to recognize the faculty who reviewed the applicants and offer our sincere thanks for their time and efforts.

The purpose of the Integrated Pilot Grant Award mechanism is to stimulate scientific discovery in all areas of basic or translational research related to the prevention, diagnosis, and management of human disease.



#### ***Jennifer Snyder-Cappione, PhD & Elias Rawad, MD***

This pilot project seeks to determine the combinations of immune parameters that correlate with frailty in older patients with non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) and matched healthy controls. PLSDA and similar algorithmic analysis platforms of collected immune and geriatric assessment data will be used to determine potential synergistic relationships between immune aging, frailty, and NSCLC onset.

## DOM Administrator Spotlight: Annette Nansubuga

**Name:** Annette Nansubuga

**Job title:** Residency Program Coordinator

**Location:** Boston University Medical Center- In the Residency Program in Internal Medicine (Evans 124)

**How many years have you been at BUMC?** I joined BUMC in 2016



**What is it that you actually do?** In my role as a Residency Program Coordinator, I wear various hats that range from organizing the Primary Care training programs in collaboration with the Primary Care Program Director to managing events, coordinating the coaching program, and various other administrative needs of the program. For the Primary Care track which involves Fall, Winter and Spring blocks, I schedule residents electives, various workshops, seminars, resident led forums and morning reports that usually take place during the primary care didactic weeks. I ensure that the primary care residents get adequate and appropriate training by organizing valuable elective experiences in primary care settings that meet their individual training needs and interests. I also support 2 program directors. Another major component of my position involves organizing assigned recruitment days during our busy interview season for program applicants. Our program receives over 4000 applications annually which we narrow down to a pool of about 400 for interviews.

**What do you wish more people knew about your job?**

I am part of a great team which is the backbone of the program. Our roles are so meaningful; we are problem solvers skilled at making things happen. Behind every trained physician, there is a committed administrator, medical education coordinator or manager that has played a big role in their training and offers support which allows them to provide quality healthcare to the patients. The residents are the core of our program. When I see them graduate, I share the joy because I know that I contributed to their success.

## DOM Administrator Spotlight: Annette Nansubuga

**I hear you are doing some volunteer work as a mock interviewer for the refugee clinic, can you tell us a little bit about what inspired you to do that and what it's like?**

I read an announcement in the BMC communication bulletin sometime back and the Boston Center for Refugee Health and Human Rights Center was seeking mock interviewers for refugees to help in preparing them for their first job in the US. Instinctively, I seized this precious opportunity so as to make a change in people's lives as I have always loved to do. I enjoy helping people as much as I can in different ways. The refugee and immigrant population that are faced with many challenges including social determinants of health. I relate to them given that some come from countries that I have lived in or similar environments and I am aware of the conditions, cultures, surroundings and their being. I wanted to be a visible part of the BMC mission and practical in putting my desire and passion into action by providing valuable feedback to the individuals that I interviewed.

It was also nice to hear their professional backgrounds and the fact that some of them are well educated and were experienced in their countries. As I interviewed them, I put myself in their shoes and I wanted the best for them. I listened to them carefully and gave effective and supportive feedback. At the end of the interviews it was so rewarding in a positive way both to them and myself. I learned from them and I am thankful for that opportunity given to me. I hope to continue volunteering for the center.

**Favorite lunch spot?** My favorite lunch spot depends on the days. An example is that I love Andre's fries on Fridays.

**Favorite thing to do outside of work?** I love cooking, singing in Church and getting together with my family which includes brothers, sisters, parents, aunties, uncles, grandparents, and friends. Over the years, I have naturally developed a love of caring for people's wellbeing in a sense that I like to see them happy. When I meet people outside of work like the elderly, I love to talk to them because some of them don't have people to talk to and this is therapy for their emotional well-being which is very satisfying.

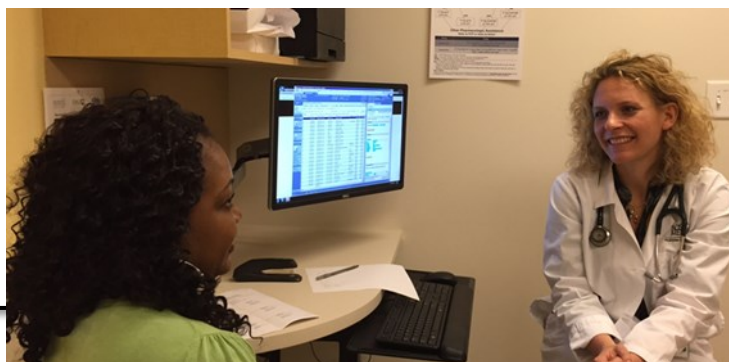
**Fun Fact:** I am a mother of twins, my husband is a twin, my mum is a twin, my mother in law has another set of twins, my paternal aunt has 3 sets of twins and my husband previously worked in the Twin Research department in London.

## Spring Spotlight: The Lupus and Autoimmunity Clinic

Systemic autoimmune diseases like lupus can be a challenge for patients, primary care physicians and specialists as they commonly affect multiple organ systems thus crossing boundaries between traditional disciplines. This increases the complexity of diagnosis and treatment, the number of visits that a patient needs to make to different specialty clinics and polypharmacy that negatively impacts adherence.

The Lupus and Autoimmunity Clinic at Boston Medical Center is a multi-disciplinary clinic that was established in 2013 by a collaborative effort between the Rheumatology (Drs. Youmna Lahoud and Michael York) and Renal (Drs. Hanni Menn-Josephy, Ramon Bonegio, and Ian Rifkin) Sections and the Department of Dermatology (Dr. Christina Lam) with support from the Department of Medicine. More recently the clinic has partnered with the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology (Dr. Christina Yarrington) to provide counselling and family planning to women receiving potentially teratogenic immunosuppressive medications and comprehensive care to those with autoimmune disease who are pregnant.

The Lupus and Autoimmunity Clinic follows approximately 500 patients with systemic autoimmune diseases and continues to grow at about 15% a year. Most of these patients have lupus or undifferentiated connective tissue disease but the clinic also sees patients with vasculitis, membranous nephropathy (seen by Drs. Lawrence Beck and David Salant) and IgA nephropathy. The clinic is staffed by physicians dedicated to diagnosing, treating, and educating patients with lupus and other systemic autoimmune diseases. This has proved to be very popular with patients who like the fact that they can see several specialists at a single visit and that their care is comprehensive and easier to coordinate.



Dr. Hanni Menn-Josephy from the renal section meets with one of her patients referred to the clinic to explain how lupus may affect kidney function and what treatment options are available. \*

## Spring Spotlight: The Lupus and Autoimmunity Clinic

This coordination of care is further strengthened by the clinic's patient navigator, Anna Kancharla, who assists patients to schedule with multiple providers and helps to identify socio-economic barriers to patient compliance. She connects patients with resources such as transportation assistance and educational materials to overcome these barriers.



Dr. Christina Lam from the Department of Dermatology examining skin lesions that developed in her patient during treatment for lupus-associated arthritis. Her differential diagnosis will include immune-mediated injury to the skin and opportunistic infections or malignancy due to his immunosuppressed state.\*

**If you would like to refer a patient to the Lupus and Autoimmunity Clinic** you can do so by contacting Anna Kancharla

- telephone 617-638-1831
- e-mail [Anna.Kancharla@bmc.org](mailto:Anna.Kancharla@bmc.org) or
- alternatively, direct referrals to single providers can be made using Epic by typing "Nephrology: Lupus", "Rheumatology: Lupus", or "Dermatology: Rheum/Derm" into the orders tab.

Please specify the time frame in which you would like the patient to be seen when placing the referral. Clinic physicians will communicate their recommendations to both the patient and the referring provider.

\*Image reproduced with permission from patient

## Spring Spotlight: The Lupus and Autoimmunity Clinic

The physicians in the Lupus and Autoimmunity Clinic provide standard-of-care treatment to all patients. In addition, they are also dedicated to identifying new treatments and obtaining a better understanding of disease pathogenesis. Phase I, Phase II, and Phase III clinical trials are currently underway to test promising new therapies and eligible patients are encouraged to participate. Eight clinical trials have already been successfully completed. Many of the physicians are also physician-scientists actively involved in translational and basic science research. Current research studies are exploring the role of innate immune receptors and interferon signaling in the pathogenesis of lupus and how variations in immunomodulatory genes may contribute to the development or severity of disease and/or inform treatment choices. Our translational clinical research projects are supported by a patient registry and repository that collects blood, skin, urine and excess kidney biopsy material for research from consenting patients and healthy controls. This research is supported by funding from the National Institutes of Health, non-profit Foundations, and industry collaborators. Research opportunities for fellows, post-doctoral scientists and graduate students are available. Anyone interested in pursuing research into autoimmunity is welcome to contact Ramon Bonegio ([bonegio@bu.edu](mailto:bonegio@bu.edu)) or Ian Rifkin ([irifkin@bu.edu](mailto:irifkin@bu.edu)).



Ms. AP on initial presentation to the clinic with acute cutaneous lupus (left) and during a clinical trial visit several years later (right) where she is photographed with Dr. Michael York from Rheumatology and the clinical trial coordinator Dr. Britte Beaudette-Zlatanova .\*

## Spring Spotlight: The Lupus and Autoimmunity Clinic

As an example of how the Lupus and Autoimmunity Clinic may serve your patients, we would like to highlight the story of one of our patients who has lupus. AP is a 32-year-old divorced mother of two who presented to BMC in 2013 with arthritis, a positive anti-nuclear antibody test, and heart failure due to autoimmune endocarditis. She was critically ill and underwent an emergency mitral valve replacement and was then referred to the Lupus and Autoimmunity Clinic. The diagnosis of lupus was confirmed and she was found to have acute cutaneous lupus, a vasculitic rash, and rapidly progressive glomerulonephritis in addition to the arthritis and endocarditis that were recognized at her initial presentation. She underwent an urgent kidney biopsy to define the nature of the kidney lesion because lupus can affect the kidneys in at least five different ways and she was then started on steroids and disease modifying chemotherapy. Ms. AP's treatment was very challenging. She speaks very little English, has severe disease, and her course was complicated by inconsistent medication adherence in part because of poor social support and limited financial resources. She experienced several disease flares before she elected to enroll in a randomized, placebo controlled clinical trial investigating a new and potentially beneficial therapy for lupus nephritis. After being treated for the past two years and successfully completing the clinical trial, AP has been in complete remission for the past 6 months. Her rash has resolved and her nephritis is in remission. She continues to be monitored every 3 months in the Lupus and Autoimmunity Clinic.

To learn more about our services, our basic and clinical research, and/or to identify areas of potential collaboration, please visit our webpage at <https://www.bmc.org/lupus>.

# MATCH RESULTS!!!

## Congratulations to all who matched!

| First Name  | Last Name       | Medical School of Graduation   | Track        |
|-------------|-----------------|--|--------------|
| Sarah       | Altajar         | Florida International University   | Categorical  |
| Ana Maria   | Avila Rodriguez | Universidad de la Sabana Facultad de Medicina                                | Categorical  |
| Roelof      | Bekendam        | Rijksuniversiteit Groningen Faculteit der Medische Wetenschappen             | Categorical  |
| Catherine   | Bielick         | University of Florida College of Medicine                                    | Categorical  |
| Ryan        | Bonner          | Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine                         | Categorical  |
| Maximillian | Bourdillon      | Saint Louis University School of Medicine                                    | Categorical  |
| Hannan      | Braun           | University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine                  | Primary Care |
| Tara        | Bylsma          | University of Illinois College of Medicine                                   | Categorical  |
| Andrew      | Canakis         | Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine                                 | Categorical  |
| Joseph      | Chung           | Boston University School of Medicine   | Categorical  |
| Steven      | Coffin          | Robert Larner, M.D., College of Medicine at the University of Vermont        | Categorical  |
| Samuel      | Coffin          | Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University                             | Categorical  |
| Matthew     | Cozzolino       | Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine & Science | Categorical  |
| Madeline    | DiLorenzo       | Albert Einstein College of Medicine  | Categorical  |
| Benjamin    | Drapcho         | The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University                         | Preliminary  |
| Brett       | Dumas           | University of Central Florida College of Medicine                            | Categorical  |
| Michael     | Fattouh         | Albert Einstein College of Medicine  | Categorical  |
| Rachel      | Feldman         | Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine at Quinnipiac University               | Categorical  |
| Edeliz      | Flores          | Albany Medical College   | Categorical  |
| Thomas      | Ford            | University of Massachusetts Medical School                                   | Preliminary  |
| Nikitha     | Gangasani       | University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine                     | Categorical  |
| Ahmed       | Gemei           | October 6 University Faculty of Medicine                                     | Categorical  |
| Eric        | Guardino        | University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine                    | Categorical  |
| Lindsey     | Hildebrand      | University of Massachusetts Medical School                                   | Categorical  |
| Kevin       | Huang           | University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine               | Categorical  |
| Jasmine     | Huerta          | Rutgers New Jersey Medical School  | Categorical  |

## MATCH RESULTS!!!

### Congratulations to all who matched!

|           |                     |   |              |
|-----------|---------------------|---|--------------|
| M. Ihsan  | Kaadan              | University of Aleppo Faculty of Medicine                              | Categorical  |
| Theofanis | Kalathas            | Aristotle University of Thessaloniki Medical School                   | Primary Care |
| Aaron     | Kaufman             | Boston University School of Medicine                                  | Preliminary  |
| Deandrea  | King                | Boston University School of Medicine                                  | Preliminary  |
| Abdulaziz | Malik               | Kuwait University Faculty of Medicine                                 | Categorical  |
| Kaitlin   | McCarter            | Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University          | Categorical  |
| Julia     | Newman              | University of Colorado School of Medicine                             | Categorical  |
| Linda     | Paniszyn            | Albany Medical College  | Primary Care |
| Akash     | Patel               | Rutgers New Jersey Medical School                                     | Categorical  |
| Nathan    | Pham                | Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine                    | Categorical  |
| Iniya     | Rajendran           | Imperial College London Faculty of Medicine                           | Primary Care |
| Katherine | Reifler             | University of Illinois College of Medicine                            | Categorical  |
| Clare     | Ronan               | Tufts University School of Medicine                                   | Categorical  |
| Nedda     | Sanayei             | Tufts University School of Medicine                                   | Preliminary  |
| Brian     | Schwartz            | Boston University School of Medicine                                  | Categorical  |
| Hely      | Shah                | Cooper Medical School of Rowan University                             | Categorical  |
| Tara      | Shrout              | University of Kentucky College of Medicine                            | Categorical  |
| August    | Sigelko             | Wayne State University School of Medicine                             | Categorical  |
| Samantha  | Siskind             | Robert Larner, M.D., College of Medicine at the University of Vermont | Primary Care |
| Steven    | Soler               | Boston University School of Medicine                                  | Preliminary  |
| Alexandra | Solomon             | Boston University School of Medicine                                  | Categorical  |
| William   | Spears              | Drexel University College of Medicine                                 | Preliminary  |
| Mythri    | Subramaniam         | Boston University School of Medicine                                  | Categorical  |
| Benjamin  | Trachtman           | Tufts University School of Medicine                                   | Preliminary  |
| Stephanie | Van Decker          | Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University                    | Categorical  |
| Rodolfo   | Villarreal-Calderon | University of Virginia School of Medicine                             | Categorical  |
| Chelsea   | Walter              | University of Colorado School of Medicine                             | Categorical  |