

# Community Medicine Newsletter



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## Dates to Remember

### **Featured Event**



Dr. Kathleen M. Bennett  
Memorial Lecture in  
Community Medicine:

Weds, Nov 13th - 8-9AM  
801 Mass Ave, 2nd floor  
Boston, MA 02118

## Featured

### **Featured Community Medicine Medical Director**

## Director's Notes

Community-based Internal Medicine practitioners: What do we stand for?

The American Medical system is undergoing revolutionary change from a variety of competing forces that range from payment reform, the rapid and largely untested deployment of health information technology, quality and accountability - just to name a few! How can a reasonable community-based Internal Medicine practitioner stay focused, engaged, and retain the enthusiasm to approach each day believing that this is a worthwhile, not futile effort? One way may be to reaffirm our professional values from time to time as a bulwark against this professional existential angst.

I believe the same concept applies to Community Medicine. We are Community Medicine but what do we stand for? Here is my own stab at testifying for the group:

As Community Medicine Practitioners we believe in:

- Providing the highest quality Primary Care Internal Medicine for our patients despite innumerable obstacles provided by the health and social systems
- Delivering respectful, patient-centered care for all patients
- Providing clinical continuity over the course of the human life-cycle
- Adherence to a holistic bio-psycho-social approach to patient care
- Providing care for under-served and stigmatized populations
- The following tenant: "Social justice coupled with evidence-informed public health policy is the most powerful approach to improve the health of the populations and the individuals we care for"

Please share your thoughts. We will post them in our next CMU Newsletter.

Warm Regards,

July 22, 2013



Our featured Medical Director this newsletter is Dr. Nisha Thakrar.

We asked her for thoughts on her job and health center:

*South Boston Community Health Center (SBCHC) is a multi-specialty Community Health Center in heart of South Boston, serving almost 15,000 patients. I came to work at SBCHC as the medical director almost ten years ago. My job includes oversight all of the clinical departments, including nursing, and I also see patients for about fifty percent of my time.*

*My background is in Pediatrics, completing my residency at Children's Hospital of Boston. After residency, I worked as a PICU attending at UMDNJ, New Brunswick for six years before working at my first health center in Davenport, IA. My next job was at Peekskill Area Health Center in*

Christopher W. Shanahan, MD MPH FACP  
Director, Community Medicine Unit



## Network News

### Successful Bi-annual Collection of Ongoing Professional Performance Evaluations (OPPEs)

A sincere thanks to all the community-based providers and administration for another successful OPPE collection (97.7% as of July 16th, 2013). We work with 13 Community Health Centers, processing the paperwork for 100+ doctors and 80+ nurse practitioners and physician assistants. With such a large volume of evaluations coming through our faxes & emails, we are grateful to have such great support from the health centers in completing this massive undertaking. Thank you!

### Medical Student Preceptors Wanted - A Funded Opportunity

The Ambulatory Internal Medicine Clerkship and CMU at Boston Medical Center are looking for Joint Hire GIM/Health Center Faculty to precept 4th year BUSM students in an urgent care setting at BMC. Preceptors will be selected based on their experience and interest. There will be an orientation to the goals of the rotation and faculty development regarding precepting 4th year students in the urgent care (UC) setting in the Shapiro primary care practice. Preceptors will be assigned 2 students per four hour session. Contact the Program Director [Tom Barber](#) if interested in this exciting new opportunity.

### Mass Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP)

The Department of Public Health provides the Massachusetts on-line prescription monitoring program ("PMP"). The PMP enables providers to view controlled substance prescriptions filled at Massachusetts pharmacies. The database includes prescription records for Schedule II drugs from the most recent 12 months, along with basic analytics. The application is easy to fill out. Click [here](#) for detailed instructions.

Once your PMP account has been established, you will receive an email verifying access to the system. All users should wait

*Peekskill, NY before coming to SBCHC.*

*The things I love about my job are the people I work with; by definition they are dedicated and really committed to our work. I enjoy working in a place where we have the ability to make a difference in the lives of our patients and our community on a daily basis.*

*Our biggest challenges are usually financial; it's tough to provide the kind of health care we want with the kind of tight budgets we usually have in CHCs.*

*I'm always inspired by the stories of our patients. If we can help them with their health care needs and some of the other challenges in their lives, I think we accomplish our mission as a health center.*

to register until they receive this email to ensure that the Online PMP is available. This email will include instructions on how to register and use Online PMP.

### **Bi-annual Community Medicine Grand Rounds to commence in Fall 2013**

Beginning this fall, CMU will host bi-annual Community Medicine Grand Rounds. This series will consist of interactive seminars with cutting-edge topics for community practitioners.

Each presentation will be held on Wednesday or Thursday evenings at 6 PM and would be between 1-1.5 hours (end at 7 or 7:30 PM). Light dinner will be served.

More information will follow in the next CMU Newsletter, regarding specific date and topic. If you have ideas for upcoming speakers or topics, please contact us.

### **BUSM & GIM Updates**

#### **New Appointments in the Section of General Internal Medicine at BMC**

[Michael Paasche-Orlow, MD, MA, MPH](#) - *Associate Chief for Research* - This newly created position was formed as the result of feedback at the Section of GIM retreat in December 2012. In this role, Dr. Paasche-Orlow will work to enhance the infrastructure, administrative efficiency and academic collaboration within GIM's research programs. Dr. Paasche-Orlow is a nationally recognized expert in the field of health literacy and has brought attention to the role health literacy plays in racial and ethnic disparities, self-care for patients with chronic diseases, end-of life decision making, and the ethics of research with human subjects.

**Charlotte Wu, MD** - *GIM Primary Care Medical Director* - Dr. Wu will start in her new role on September 1, 2013. Dr. Wu graduated from Yale University School of Medicine and trained at Beth Israel-Deaconess Medical Center in Internal Medicine. Her expertise is in the innovation, implementation, and scale-up of chronic care delivery systems for vulnerable populations. Administratively, she has focused on improving population health and patient experience while decreasing health care costs. She will serve as a key GIM physician leader in quality improvement, strategic planning, project management, team-building and health system transformation.

### **Education Corner**

## Upcoming GIM & DOM Grand Rounds and Ambulatory Rounds

### Special Summer Lecture Series (CME)

Weds, July 31st @ 8AM-801 Mass Ave, 2nd flr, Rm 2127  
"How to Manage A Diabetic with an A1C > 9" - presented by [James Rosenzweig, MD](#), [Roberta Capelson, MS, ANP](#) & [Karen Chalmers, MS, RD](#)

Weds, Aug 7th @ 8AM-801 Mass Ave, 2nd flr, Rm 2127  
"Perspective on Precepting" - presented by [Geoff Modest, MD](#)

Weds, Aug 14th @ 8AM-801 Mass Ave, 2nd flr, Rm 2127  
"Preceptor and Inpatient Attending Development" - presented by [Craig Noronha, MD](#)

### GIM Grand Rounds (CME)

to commence again Sept 2013

### GIM M & M Rounds (CME)

to commence again Sept 2013

### Addiction Medicine Case Rounds

to commence again Sept 2013

### DOM Grand Rounds (CME)

to commence again Sept 2013

### DOM M & M Rounds (CME)

to commence again Sept 2013

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