

Community Medicine Newsletter



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Featured

Feature Community Medicine Physician:



Jonathan Pincus, MD

We caught up with Dr. Pincus, from Codman Square Community Health Center, to ask him a few questions. This is what he had to say:

Q. What is the best part about being an internist?

A. The variety and complexity of care and the long term relationships with patients over years and through various medical conditions, the diverse and rapidly evolving medical literature across spectrum of primary care and the engaging collaborations with colleagues makes primary care internal

Aug 5, 2014

Director's Notes

The Purpose of Summer

Wait, I thought summer was about avoiding purpose...Well at least some it. Yes - the purpose of summer is to spend at least some of it without purpose! Sounds crazy, but it's not.



Our profession is in the midst of revolution - Primary Care Medical Homes, Meaningful Use, the Affordable Care Act, RVUs, Quality and Safety metrics, etc. We are all rushing to meet these new demands while still striving to be grounded and sensitive Primary Care Providers, attentive to every bio-psycho-social aspect of our patients and their healthcare. And yes - do it all in an efficient, evidence-based and safety-conscious manner. And we get 15 minutes to do it! So with all this to attend to while pushing faster and farther, how can we possibly remain happily professionally and personally balanced?

Answer: Purposelessness. A few minutes here, a few minutes there and a bunch of it while on vacation. And all this intentional purposelessness - what does it get us? It restores our ability to think. Remember thinking? Even a little bit of thinking is an amazing thing. That little bit of time spent upfront that enables one to make a new plan, chart a smarter course, develop an innovative approach, consider options, review priorities, make a needed change, consider and consolidate opinions and values, change one's mind or perspective, just to name a few. It rejuvenates the tired mind and enables one to be more compassionate or patient or both. As Community-based Primary Care Providers, we need to take care of ourselves to be able to take care of others. One great way to do it is to be purposefully without purpose this summer! Enjoy your summer, we are all depending you!

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

Network News

eMERGE Training at BMC

BMC is offering training to offsite, community-based providers who would like view-only access to the BMC inpatient electronic medical record. You will watch four modules on the eMerge website. You will then need to self-register for

medicine so enjoyable.

Q. What drew you to a community-based practice?

A. Despite the resources of the US and the technical advances in medicine significant disparities in health care access and outcomes persist and are often affected by race and poverty. Community Health Centers are dedicated to serving the most vulnerable populations and recognize the importance of the social determinants of health in improving the health of patients and communities. As smaller organizations, they often offer more opportunities for innovation and program development than larger hospital-based practices.

Q. What advice do you have for getting started in community-based research?

A. There are lots of opportunities for clinical research but finding time and support is perhaps more challenging outside of an academic medical center. As in other environments, protected time and partnerships with the talented researchers at academic medical centers makes research projects at community based sites more feasible.

Q. What experience with a patient has stuck with you and why?

A. The incredible diversity in how people handle illness and death and how it reflects on

the post-test in HealthStream and complete it. Please notify [Katryna Mahoney](#) upon completion so that she can follow up with EPIC access.

Buprenorphine Training with Colleen LaBelle, CARN

If you or your nursing staff are interested in Addiction Medicine and Buprenorphine training, Colleen LaBelle, CARN conducts training sessions throughout the state and also provides addiction medicine email updates. Consider attending a training or being added to her list serve; send an email to colleen.labelle@bmc.org.

Mass Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP)

The Department of Public Health runs the Massachusetts on-line prescription program ("PMP") which 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.

After registering, you will receive an email verifying access to the online PMP system. This email will include instructions on how to use the Online PMP.

BUSM & GIM Updates

2nd biannual CMU Grand Rounds

On May 13th, the CMU hosted its 2nd biannual Community Medicine Grand Rounds. It was an excellent session with two experts in the field of screening and brief intervention around pain management and opioid prescribing: Dr. Daniel Alford, MD, MPH and Lee Ellenberg, MSW. It was a stimulating presentation, highlighting the methodologies of screening and brief intervention, assessment of substance abuse severity and education on specific tools for screening and assessment. Materials from the session are available at the [CMU website](#). Thank you to Dr. Alford and Lee!

CTSI Community Outreach

Boston University's Clinical and Translational Science Institute (BU CTSI), has formed a Community Advisory Board (CAB)!

BU CTSI provides tools, training, and resources necessary to improve health by facilitating in the translation of research from the laboratory into clinical practice. The mission of the Community Advisory Board is to establish, catalyze, translate, and improve research communication and relationships between the community and researchers.

Together with community partners, the BU CTSI and CAB, as defined by the diverse community that utilizes Boston Medical Center (BMC), BU/BMC affiliated researchers and the BU CTSI work together to address community research that matters.

The goals of the CAB include getting information on research

how they approach life always strikes me and makes me reflect on how I view my life each day. Among the most memorable was working with a very brave and determined woman who was dying of cancer as she traveled around the country between and through intercurrent illnesses to visit all the sites on her "bucket list."

Q. What hobbies occupy your free time?

A. Free time? I'm not sure I've figured out that part of being a primary care doc. Travel and activities with my wife, Donna, and two children Samantha (8) and Joshua (2).

Q. What is your favorite place to vacation [escape to]?

A. Paris but lately it's been Disney World with my family and a small community health center in Leogane, Haiti. And visiting family in Hawaii isn't too bad either!

Thanks, Dr. Pincus!

Get to Know CMU Staff:

Veronica Forde

I have been with SGIM for 10 years as a GIM Program Manager. One of my roles is to help initiate applications for initial faculty appointments for the Community Medicine Unit. I am the first point of contact to help facilitate this application process.

If you have academic affiliation with BUSM, you could qualify for a

being conducted by the CTSI out to the community; representing community priorities; and providing input on conduct of research within the community.

The CAB meets quarterly, alternating locations between BMC and community identified venues. Our last meeting was held June 20th, 2014, at which time data from the BU-i2b2 aggregate data tool on health disparities by geography and race in obesity, diabetes, and smoking rates for the community, represented by BMC and affiliated Community Health Centers, was presented. Demographic data for the ReSPECT Registry, a database of individuals who are interested in learning about and participating in clinical research trials was also be presented. CAB meeting notes are available [here](#).

For more information on the CAB, or if you are interested in joining us for our next CAB meeting, please contact [Ann Han](#) (or by phone 617-638-8036).

Education Corner

Upcoming GIM & DOM Grand Rounds and Ambulatory Rounds

GIM Grand Rounds (CME)

Weds, Sept 3 @ 8AM-801 Mass Ave, 2nd floor, Rm 2127
"State of the Section" presented by [Jeffrey Samet, MD, MA, MPH](#), GIM Section Chief

Weds, Sept 10 @ 8AM-801 Mass Ave, 2nd floor, Rm 2127
"Rethinking Professional-Patient Boundaries: Where Do We Stand in 2014" presented by [Gordon D. Schiff, MD](#)

Weds, Sept 24 @ 8AM-801 Mass Ave, 2nd floor, Rm 2127
"TBD" presented by [Daniel Cottrell, MD](#) & [Robert Sokolove, PhD](#)

GIM M & M Rounds (CME)

Weds, Sept 17 @ 8AM-801 Mass Ave, 2nd floor, Rm 2127
"Ambulatory M & M" presented by [Julie Crosson, MD](#)

DOM Grand Rounds (CME)

done for the summer - will resume on Sept 5th, 2014

DOM M & M Rounds (CME)

done for the summer - will resume on Sept 3rd, 2014

BU faculty appointment.
Send a communication to
[Veronica Forde](#),
highlighting your
academic activities,
along with your CV.
For details please go to
this [website](#).

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