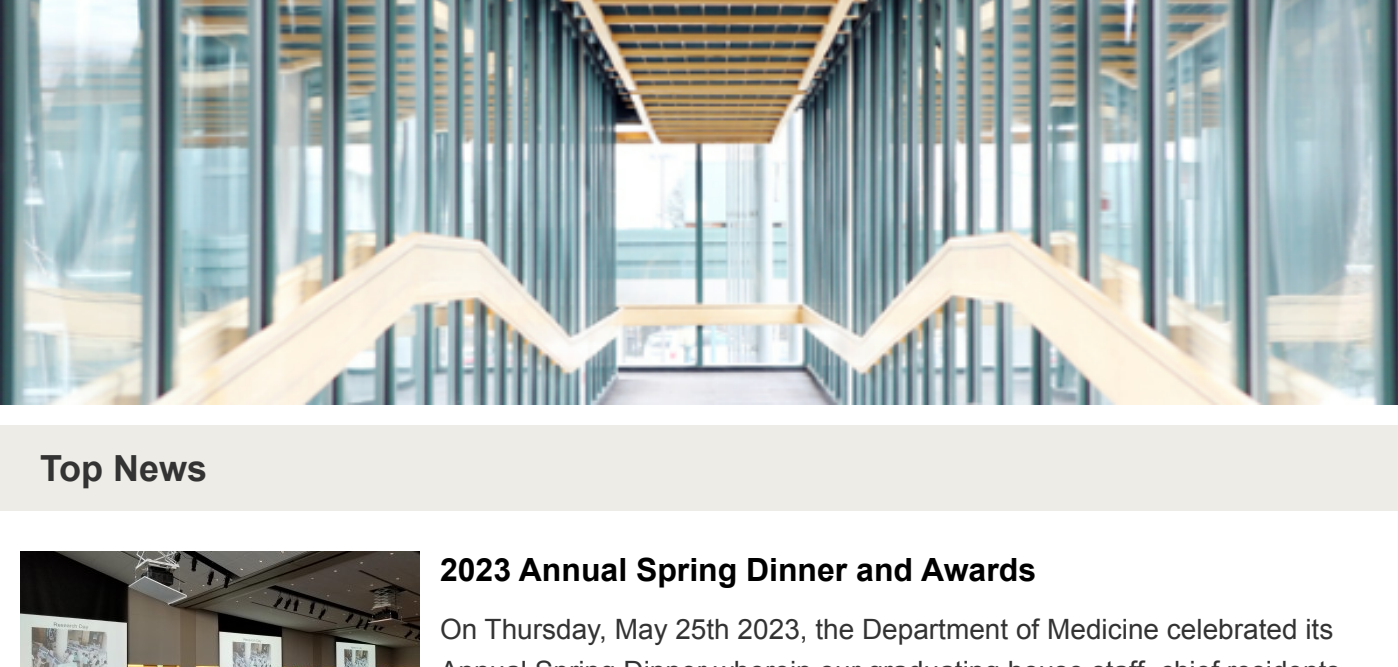




Top News



2023 Annual Spring Dinner and Awards

On Thursday, May 25th 2023, the Department of Medicine celebrated its Annual Spring Dinner wherein our graduating house staff, chief residents and faculty are honored for their achievements. This revered tradition of bringing the department together now means more than it ever has before given the last three years.

- **Master Clinician**
Christina Hirsch, MD, Simi Singh, MD & Nathan Stehouwer, MD
- **Ambulatory Excellence**
Victoria Sandoval, MD (DMC) & Sofi Damjanovska, MD (COE)
- **Faculty Teacher of the Year**
Timica Campbell, MD (outpatient) & Jaime Tomko, MD (inpatient)
- **Resident Clerkship Teacher of the Year**
Sapna Sundar, MD, David Li, MD & Will Petro, MD
- **Faculty Clerkship Teacher of the Year**
Varija Yalamanchali, MD
- **Agre Award / Faculty Research Mentor**
Emad Mansoor, MD
- **Ramy F. Masrouleh Teaching Award**
Sam Tanner, MD
- **Norman Gordon Award**
Mohannad Wazirali, MD
- **Peter Morgan Award**
Ho Jun Lee, MD
- **Willard Bernbaum Award**
Sanjana Murali, MD & Beddome Allen, MD
- **Harold Klein Award**
Jessica Chippior, MD
- **Adel Askari Memorial Award**
Ali Salameh, MD
- **Charles C.J. Carpenter**
Todd Chengsupanimit, MD

Each of these accolades signify and represent the highest caliber of excellence in teaching, clinical care and research in our Department.

Congratulations to the graduating housestaff and all awardees!



21st annual Spondyloarthritis Treatment and Research Network (SPARTAN) Meeting Highlights

We are thrilled to share the exciting highlights from the 21st annual Spondyloarthritis Treatment and Research Network (SPARTAN) meeting, which took place from May 18th to May 20th in Cleveland. **Dr. Marina Magrey**, Chief of UH's Rheumatology Division, Director of spondyloarthritis research at UH, and distinguished board member of the SPARTAN Board, chaired the planning and orchestration of the event.

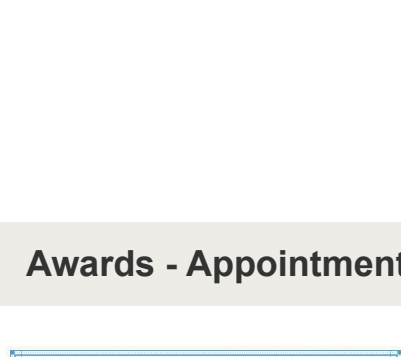
The conference celebrated the 50th anniversary of the HLA-B27 gene discovery and its pivotal connection to hereditary factors in spondyloarthritis. Approximately 200 rheumatologists from around the world converged both in person and virtually to discuss the remarkable evolution of the field of spondyloarthritis over the past five decades.

Dr. Vijay Kuchroo from Harvard University delivered a prominent keynote address, shedding light on the dual nature of intestinal Th17 cells. Dr. Kuchroo explored their critical role in maintaining tissue hemostasis and also in the development of extra-intestinal autoimmune diseases. Another central theme was advancements in understanding the pathogenesis of spondyloarthritis, with renowned experts such as Dr. Colbert from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Dr. Paul Bowness from the University of Oxford discussing the latest breakthroughs.

University Hospital researchers, **Dr. Marina Magrey** and **Dr. Jeffrey Katz**, made valuable contributions to the meeting. Dr. Magrey addressed the critical question of whether it is time to consider tapering biologics in axial spondyloarthritis, while **Dr. Katz** explored the challenges and strategies in managing inflammatory bowel disease-related spondyloarthritis. Their collaborative efforts in caring for patients with both bowel disease and arthritis, requiring dual biologics, highlighted the multidisciplinary approach necessary for comprehensive patient care.

A unique aspect of this year's meeting was the involvement of patients from the University Hospital who volunteered to provide trainees with hands-on experience in physical examinations. This invaluable opportunity allowed aspiring healthcare professionals to further their clinical skills in managing spondyloarthritis.

The event concluded with a reception at the renowned Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, offering attendees the chance to discover the hidden treasures of Cleveland. This gathering served as a testament to University Hospital's position as a leading center for global spondyloarthritis research.



Real-World Observations and Passion Delivers a Diabetes Financial Tool-kit Solution for Young Adults

Personal experiences fueled Julia to dig deeper and better understand the psycho-social and financial barriers as young adults transition from pediatric to adult diabetes care.

Julia Blanchette, PhD, RN, BC-ADM, CDCES, was first diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes (T1D) at age 7. At such a young age, she was inspired to become a nurse by many amazing caregivers who guided her throughout her numerous pediatric medical visits.

Julia finished her PhD in Nursing Science from the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing at Case Western Reserve University, followed by a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Utah College of Nursing in Integrated Diabetes Management.

[Read More »](#)



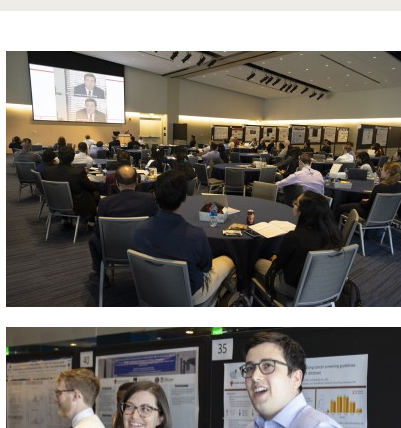
ETA-6 Expedites Transfers to Main Campus for Most Acute Cardiac & Vascular Patients

A commitment to streamline admission to UH Cleveland Medical Center for the most critical cardiac and vascular patients is eliminating the waitlist. Effective Transfers Accepted within six hours (ETA-6) aims for admission within six hours of contacting the transfer center. The waitlist for beds at the main campus has significantly improved due to this collaboration between Harrington HVI and CMC leaders," which involved designating more beds for heart and vascular patients. Harrington HVI now can accommodate patients in 90 beds on Lerner Tower 3, 5 and 7, as well as in 50 beds in the Cardiothoracic ICU, Cardiac ICU and Heart Failure ICU.

"The ETA-6 initiative was created to help address and facilitate transfers in a timely fashion, whether they are coming from within the UH health system or outside," said **Michael Zacharias, DO, FHFSA, FACC**, who is leading this project with fellow cardiologist **Ravi Ramani, MD, MMM**. "There has been a growing need for the specialized heart and vascular care that is offered at UH Cleveland Medical Center."

[Read More »](#)

Awards - Appointments - Publications



UHMC Nationally Recognized for Antimicrobial Stewardship Excellence

I am pleased to announce that UH Cleveland Medical Center has been awarded by the Infectious Diseases Society of America the designation of **Antimicrobial Stewardship Center of Excellence**. This title is bestowed upon hospitals which demonstrate delivery of the highest quality antimicrobial stewardship services, in accordance with the CDC's Core Elements of Hospital Antimicrobial Stewardship and other national evidence-based guidelines.

We are honored to join a list of 156 programs which have received the CoE designation since 2017, including UH Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital and fellow Case Western Reserve University affiliates Cleveland VA Medical Center, Cleveland Clinic, and MetroHealth Medical Center. Thus, our designation further establishes both the University Hospitals system and the CWRU medical community as national leaders in antimicrobial stewardship.

We are grateful for your support and UH's commitment to high-quality care, and we look forward to continuing our collaborative efforts to optimize antimicrobial use and reduce antimicrobial resistance in our patient population.

Leila S. Hojat, MD, MS
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Case Western Reserve University
Division of Infectious Diseases & HIV Medicine
Director, Antimicrobial Stewardship Program
University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center



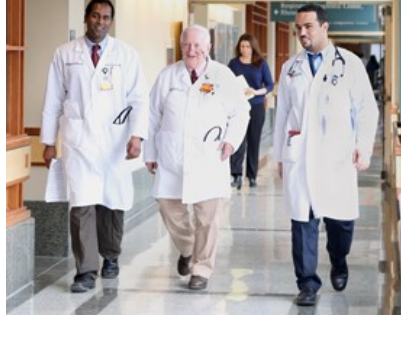
Abbas Mandviwala, MD Receives The Kaiser-Permanente Excellence in Teaching Award

The award was presented during the Student Awards ceremony on Friday, May 19th.

The Kaiser-Permanente Excellence in Teaching Award honors four members of the medical school faculty in recognition of excellence in teaching. Funded by the Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, this award celebrates the high value of teaching at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine and is presented to two pre-clinical and two clinical faculty members from the university and college programs each year at commencement.

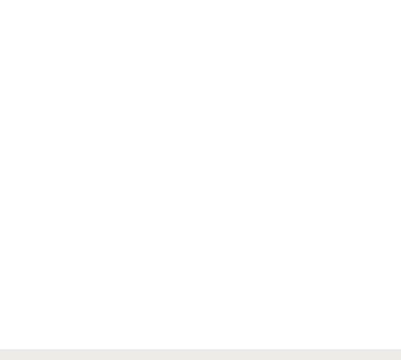
Teaching excellence involves more than energy and intellectual excellence. The physician has a lifetime obligation to continuously question and learn how to best care for their patients. Some teachers carry this responsibility with exceptional seriousness and grace. The best teachers help the students to do the same. The most valued teacher may be one whose approach or attitude is so perceptive that, confronted with a difficult situation, the student has a recurring image of this teacher in reflective consultation. They may be memorable because they inspire other teachers or because they inspire our students to lead careers that exemplify medicine's most enduring values.

Research News



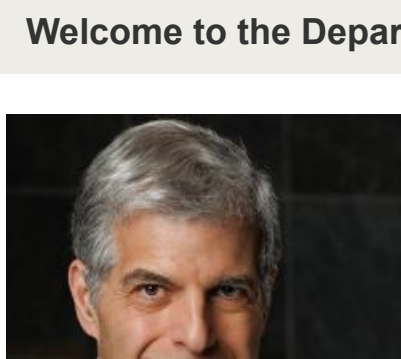
2023 Department of Medicine Research Day Awardees

The 13th Annual DOM Research Day was held on May 12th at the Tinkham Veale University Center Ballroom. The mission of Research Day is two-fold. First, is to recognize and showcase the wide range of research in the department by our young investigators at all levels of training. Second, is to provide an opportunity for departmental faculty to share ideas and knowledge while stimulating discussion about opportunities for collaboration.



Resident Category Awardees

Poster # 7 – "Non-genomic activation of the AKT-mTOR pathway by the mitochondrial stress response in thyroid cancer"
Woo Kyung Doolittle, MD, PhD, Sunmi Park, PhD, Johan Auwerx, PhD, Jandee Lee, MD, PhD, Young Suk Jo, MD, PhD



Poster # 26 – "Biliothorax: A Rare Complication of Percutaneous Transhepatic Biliary Drainage in a Patient with Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis"
Termitope Olasehinde, MD, Nathan Stehouwer, MD

Poster # 33 – "Clinical Characteristics and Outcomes of Patients with Inflammatory Bowel Disease and Documented Cannabis Use Disorders: A Multicenter Network Study"
Samuel Tanner, MD, Jaime Perez, PhD, Scott Martin, PhD, Emad Mansoor, MD, Jeffrey Katz, MD, Fabio Cominelli, MD, PhD, Vu Quang Nguyen, MD

Fellow Category Awardees

Poster # 41 – "Can β -lactam Combinations Restore Susceptibility Against *Mycobacterium avium* Complex: Exploring a New Approach to a "Difficult to Treat" Opportunistic Pathogen"
Maha Al-Jabri, MD, Khalid M Dousa, MD, Brigid M Wilson, PhD, Robert A Bonomo, MD

Poster # 47 – "Fear of Missing Organisms (FOMO): Diabetic Foot and Osteomyelitis Management Opportunities"
Morgan Morelli, MD, Andrea Son, PharmD, Yanis Bitar, Michelle Hecker, MD

Graduate/Post-Doc Student

Poster # 64 – "Emergence of INDEL mutations in KPC-2: insights into ceftazidime-avibactam and imipenem-relebactam efficacy"
Florenzia Brunetti, Christopher R. Bethel, Robert A Bonomo, MD, Pablo Power

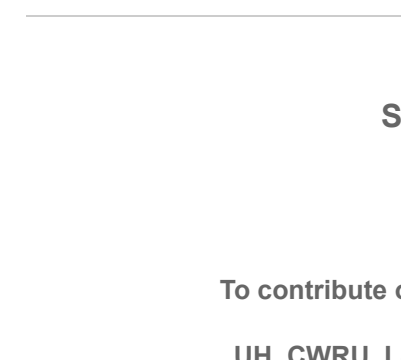
Poster # 67 – "Inhibition of Src Signaling Induces Autophagic Killing of *Toxoplasma gondii* Independent of EGF Receptor"
Alyssa Hubal, Jose-Andres Portillo, Anusha Vendhoti, Sarah Vos, Charles Shaffer, Carlos Subauste, MD

Poster # 70 – "Pathological Implications of ILK in Primary Open-Angle Glaucoma"
Bridger Jeppesen, BS, Charles Guo, Hyun Pil Lee, PhD, Shigemi Matsuyama DVM, PhD, Douglas Rhee, MD

Poster # 72 – "Antigen-specificity and TCR Repertoire of Memory CD4+ T-Cell Clones that recognize *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* Infected Macrophages"
Avinaash Kaur Sandhu, PhD, Stephen Carpenter, MD, PhD

Congratulations to the awardees and thank you to all who participated in making this a very successful event!

Education News



Welcome New Chiefs

We are very pleased to welcome our new Chief Residents for the 2023-2024 academic year.

Internal Medicine Chief Residents AY 2023-2024:

- Steven Ajluni
- Kendra Frey
- Tasveer Khawaja
- Willie McClure
- Aya Tabbalat

Combined Medicine/Pediatrics Chief Resident AY 2023-2024:

- Angelina Sawaya

Center of Outpatient Education Chief Resident AY 2023-2024:

- Elizabeth Jean-Marie

We look forward to another great year of leadership, education and patient care in 2023-2024!

2023-24 Coaching Opportunity

Would you like to be an opportunity to connect with our residents?

We invite you to consider being a coach to an incoming intern. The role of the coach is to augment the resident's professional identity development and personal growth through self-reflection and focused goal-setting.

We would pair you with an intern with whom you would have a longitudinal relationship over three years. Your commitment would be up to four 45-minute sessions with the intern over the course of the year where you would meet to discuss their personal and professional goals. There will be a faculty development session (2 hour program or can view online) in June to prepare you for the role as a coach. You would also be invited to meet your intern at the Chairman's Welcome Reception on June 19th.

We are confident that this rewarding opportunity will improve your own sense of professional satisfaction and resiliency, and this is a great way to connect with our residents on a more personal level. If interested, or if you have further questions, please contact Simi Singh at Simran.Singh@va.gov or Ronda Mourad at Ronda.Mourad@va.gov.

Welcome to the Department



Gary Schwartz, MD

Director, Case Comprehensive Cancer Center
Vice Dean for Oncology, School of Medicine
Gertrude Donnelly Hess MD Professor in Oncology Research

Gary Schwartz, MD, is the Director of the Case Comprehensive Cancer Center (Case CCC). Formerly Chief of Hematology and Oncology at Columbia University Irving Medical Center (CUIMC) and Deputy Director of the Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center, his vision is to establish highly innovative, transformative clinical translational research programs in the field of cancer therapy.

His post at Case CCC follows 30 years of extensive work in early drug development with bench-top to bedside research in gastrointestinal cancers, melanoma, and sarcoma. As the former Chief of the Melanoma and Sarcoma Service at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC), he successfully brought together clinical researchers and basic scientists to establish a highly successful clinical research program that focused on translational clinical trials with small molecule inhibitors and targeted immunologic agents. His efforts at Columbia similarly focused on precision medicine. This resulted in the recruitment of key leaders in the areas of early drug development and immunotherapy. As director of the Laboratory for New Drug Development of Rare Cancers, he developed NCI, FDA, and DOD grant- supported novel targeted agents for bench-top to bedside clinical translational research focusing on drugs that targeted the cell cycle ranging from CDK4 to Chk1.

[Read More »](#)

Upcoming Events

Medicine Grand Rounds - June 13

How a TED Talk Saved 350,000 lives from COVID-19

Edsel Maurice T. Salvana, MD, DTM&H, FPCP, FIDSA

Director and Professor, Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology
National Institutes of Health
University of the Philippines Manila
Adjunct Professor for Global Health
University of Pittsburgh

Recurring Events [\(Zoom information sent out weekly\)](#)

Tuesdays @ Noon - **Medicine Grand Rounds Seminar Series** (September - May)

Wednesdays @ Noon - **VA Conference**

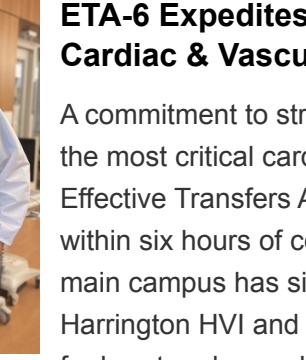
Fridays @ Noon - **UH M&M Conference**

Recent Medicine Grand Rounds



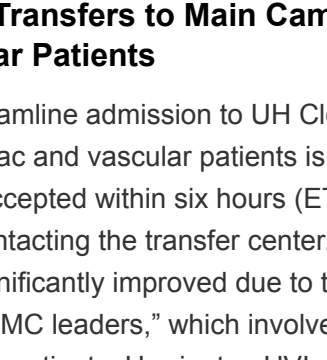
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Kristi Kuhn, MD, PhD
Askari Lecture:
"Mucosal Barriers
for Understanding
Axial
Spondyloarthritis"



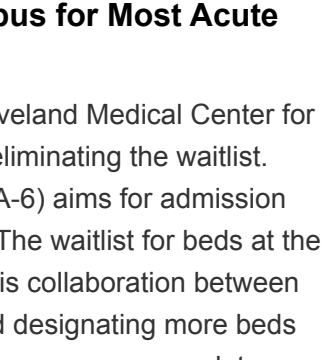
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Ronald Magliola, MD
"How Can We Be
Both: The Hunger
Obesity-Paradox"



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Mahmoud, PhD, MBA, FAAM, FIDSA, ESCMD Fellow
"Candida Auris: A
Global Emerging
Multidrug Resistant
Pathogen"



[View »](#)

Amanda Lathia, MD, MPhil
"Polypharmacy and
the Art of De-
prescribing"

Social:

[Click here to view online](#)

To contribute or provide feedback, email: Matthew.Zelesnik@UHospitals.org

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