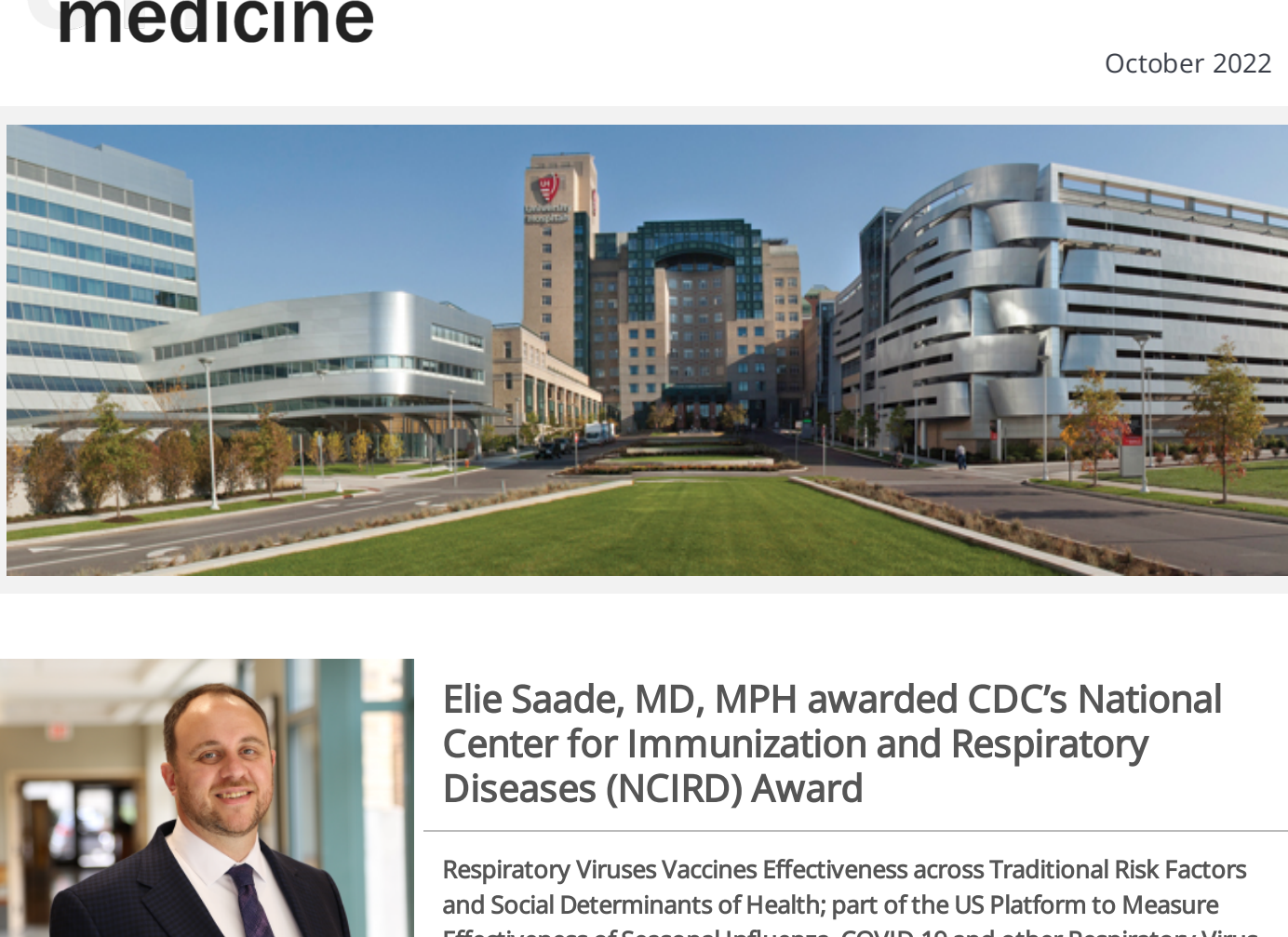




Elie Saade, MD, MPH awarded CDC's National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD) Award

Respiratory Viruses Vaccines Effectiveness across Traditional Risk Factors and Social Determinants of Health, part of the US Platform to Measure Effectiveness of Seasonal Influenza, COVID-19 and other Respiratory Virus Vaccines for the Prevention of Acute Illness in Ambulatory Settings

This study seeks to understand how well the influenza and COVID-19 vaccines work in a real-world setting and how their effectiveness is changed by factors related to the person, the specific vaccine or the most common type of virus. The study also examines what affects who gets infected at home when someone has an infection, and what might change that. The researchers will also look into the body response to the infection or the vaccine to help understand what can be done to lessen the risk of getting an infection.

Major Goals: University Hospitals of Cleveland in collaboration with the Cleveland Louis Stokes Veterans Affairs Medical Center and Case Western Reserve University will be part of a network of US institutions that will identify laboratory-confirmed cases of acute respiratory illness due to influenza, SARS-CoV-2, and other viruses of major public health concern among patients seeking healthcare for acute respiratory illness and related symptomatology, and provide accurate estimates of the effectiveness of influenza, COVID-19, and other vaccines against respiratory virus-associated illness in this population.

Funding: \$12.5M over 5 years

Principal Investigator: **Elie Saade**

Co-Investigators: Robert Salata, Mark Cameron, David Canaday, Curtis Donskey, Kiran Faray, Claudia Heyen, Frank Jacono, Charles Macias, David Sadr, Shelly Senders, Lisa Stempak, Daniel Tisch, & Peter Zimmerman

[US FIVE Network](#)
[Watch Article](#)

[Read the UH news release here >](#)



Nine Department of Medicine Faculty Named to 2022 Distinguished Physician Class

The Fifth Annual Distinguished Physician Ceremony will be held in November.

The DOM awardees are:

- David E. Blumenthal, MD
- Shelby J. Cash, MD
- Paula Parker-Deley, MD
- John C. Eyring, MD
- Pierre M. Gholam, MD
- Batul A. Hatipoglu, MD
- Nathan B. Seltzower, MD
- Benjamin P. Young, MD
- Michael Zacharias, DO

Congratulations to all!

[Read more about the award >](#)



Revital Gorodeski Baskin, MD

Dr. Gorodeski Baskin, could you speak about your background and then tell us about your vision and goals for the Obesity Center as its Director?

I completed my Internal Medicine training at Tufts University School of Medicine in Boston. I then completed my Endocrinology and Metabolism Fellowship at The Ohio State University Medical Center. Prior to being at UH, I worked at a General Endocrinologist at The Cleveland Clinic Foundation for over a decade. I specialized in diabetes & thyroid diseases and developed a niche in obesity management. I was recruited to work at UH as Director of the Obesity Program as part of the Diabetes and Obesity Center, and have been here building my program since November 2021.

As the Obesity Program Director, I have been working on building a program that embodies the concept that obesity is a chronic disease and requires attention across all medical fields. The consequences of worsening obesity has been shown to contribute to the metabolic syndrome, cardiovascular disease, kidney dysfunction, infertility, joint disease, sleep disorders, among many others. My program offers a structured dietary plan and includes monthly visits with myself and a Registered Dietician. I see patients in the setting of shared medical appointments both in person and virtually. Patients work on behavioral modifications, mindful eating techniques, exercise recommendations and if needed, receive pharmacologic interventions as well. I encourage the Mediterranean Diet and do also oversee a medically-supervised healthy Ketogenic Diet.

My goals for the Program, include a strong collaboration with different medical and surgical departments in our hospital system. So far, I have made great bonds with the kidney transplant team, the reproductive endocrinology group, the sleep medicine team, and the heart failure department. I envision the collaboration with these specialists as a stepping stone towards widening the scope of medical care for overweight and obese patients. I am also working with the bariatric surgery department, family medicine and the CINEMA program to build a system-wide obesity initiative.

My vision is to make weight management visits easily accessible to patients and encourage lifestyle changes that are long lasting and effective. By offering FDA-approved pharmacologic interventions, I recognize the complexity of obesity as a disease and the challenges patients face in their journey towards successful weight loss. As the program Director, I hope to spread obesity awareness across the system, collaborate with others in the process, and provide excellent care to struggling patients.

Awards - Appointments - Publications



Daniel I. Simon, MD, Chair in Cardiovascular Excellence

A \$1.5 million gift from Jane and Jim Wolf and the Wolf Family Foundation, a supporting foundation of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland, recently established the **Daniel I. Simon, MD, Chair in Cardiovascular Excellence** in recognition of the exemplary commitment, care and leadership of **Daniel I. Simon, MD**, President, Academic & External Affairs and UH Chief Scientific Officer; **Ernie and Patti Novak Distinguished Chair in Health Care Leadership**. The new endowed position will fuel advancements in cardiovascular care and research through the work of inaugural appointee **Erin Z. Gorodeski, MD, MPH**, Medical Director, Advanced Heart Failure & Transplant Center and James and Angela Hambrick Center for Cardiac Recovery; UH Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute.



International Consensus Statement on Obstructive Sleep Apnea

Drs. Anna May, Susheel Patel, and Kingman Strohl were recently published on the paper entitled *International Consensus Statement on Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA)*

This consensus statement highlights the basis of OSA evidence-based practice and identifies future research needs. The authors also identify knowledge gaps and opportunities for translating evidence into individualized approaches to therapy.

[Published article >](#)

Research News



Gay men are two times more likely to have inflammatory bowel disease, according to new research

Study will allow researchers to develop personalized precision medicine for treatment of IBD in this underrepresented minority patient population

Gay men are more than twice as likely to develop inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) than heterosexual men when both populations engage in high-risk sexual activity, according to new research from the Digestive Health Research Institute at Case Western Reserve University and the University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center (UH).

"The study was published this month in the peer-reviewed medical journal Gut. 'To our knowledge, this is the first large population-based study that demonstrates a higher prevalence of IBD in men who engage in high-risk same-sex sexual activity,'" said **Emad Mansoor**, study lead author and assistant professor at the Case Western Reserve School of Medicine and UH. "Our study is expected to open a new field of research into gastrointestinal inflammatory conditions."

"Studying the cause of IBD in this underrepresented patient population in comparison to other patient groups," said **Fabio Cominelli**, corresponding study author, professor at the School of Medicine and Chief Scientific Officer at UH, "will allow us to further investigate the cause of disease development in Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis patients and develop personalized precision medicine and treatment strategies, while also reducing stigma."

[Read more here >](#)



LUMINANCE Study - CHEST Foundation grant to evaluate Dual Energy Computed Tomography (DECT) scans

Lung volume reduction surgery (LVRS) and bronchoscopic lung volume reduction (BLVR) may help-qualified patients with emphysema improve their breathing and quality of life.

Lung volume reduction surgery involves the removal of the most damaged parts of the lung to make room for healthy lung tissue, and in BLVR - one-way valves strategically placed in specific branches of the lungs - deflate damaged sections of the lungs. Both help patients breathe more comfortably and increase their capacity for activity. University Hospitals is one of only a few centers in Ohio that offers both these procedures.

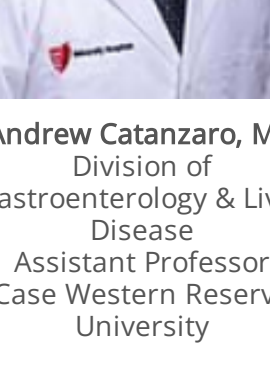
Patients are carefully screened to determine if they are appropriate candidates for BLVR and must undergo a thorough workup and evaluation, explains **Sameer Avasarala, MD**, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine.

NEW CLINICAL APPLICATION FOR EXISTING TECHNOLOGY
Dr. Avasarala has received a CHEST Foundation grant to evaluate Dual Energy Computed Tomography (DECT) scans as an alternative to quantitative perfusion scans. He will be studying this with his co-investigator, **Dr. Amit Gupta, MD**, a DECT scanning expert from the UH Department of Radiology. These DECT scans produce an on-line map that shows blood flow in the lungs.

"The main point of this project is to see how much blood flow changes in the lungs pre- and post-valve placement using dual-energy CT scans," says **Dr. Avasarala**. "Every patient enrolled in the study will have a quantitative perfusion scan on the day we want to explore the idea that patients may not need the quantitative perfusion scan before valve placement."

ENROLLMENT OPEN
Drs. Avasarala and Gupta will begin enrolling patients in this trial (lung volume reduction) by Dual Energy CT Evaluation, or LUMINANCE, in mid-November 2022. Clinicians are encouraged to refer patients for consideration.

For more information about this study or endobronchial valves, call **Dr. Avasarala** at (216) 844-3201.



Key Mechanisms of Airway Relaxation in Asthma Revealed in New Study

Novel role for nitric oxide in treatment of asthma and other obstructive airway diseases detailed by team at University Hospitals and Case Western Reserve University

Many therapeutics for asthma and other obstructive lung diseases target the β_2 -adrenergic receptor (β_2AR), a G protein-coupled receptor (GPCR) that rapidly supports airway relaxation when stimulated. Yet, overuse of these agents is associated with adverse health outcomes, including death, which has limited their utility as frontline therapies.

Now, a mouse model study published in today's issue of *Molecular Cell*, from investigators at University Hospitals (UH) and Case Western Reserve University, identifies a novel strategy to isolate the beneficial effects of β_2AR stimulation. This suggests a new therapeutic approach to airway diseases as well as numerous other conditions involving the aberrant function of GPCRs.

"Not only is the β_2 -adrenergic receptor the mainstay for keeping airways open, it's often studied as a prototype for how GPCRs work, which controls a wide range of targets of 50% of all drugs," explained **Jonathan S. Stamler, MD**, President, Harrington Discovery Institute at UH, Robert S. and Sylvia K. Reiman Family Foundation Distinguished Professor of Cardiovascular Innovation, and Professor of Medicine and Biochemistry at UH and Case Western Reserve School of Medicine.

[Read more here >](#)



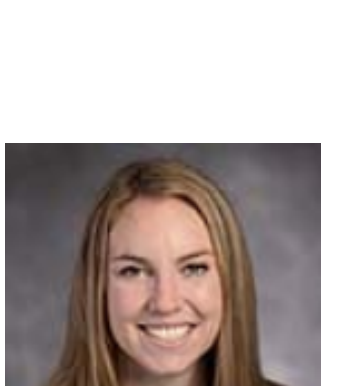
Frank Jacono, MD, Receives New R01

Dr. Jacono, along with co-investigators Ted Dick, PhD, Yee-Hsieh Hsieh, PhD, and Rishi Dhangra, PhD, recently were awarded a new R01 grant.

Title: Neuroinflammation Maladaptively Cardio Respiratory Circuits and Patterns

Project Narrative: Septic and acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) are both life-threatening disorders; the former caused by a dysregulated host immune response to infection and the latter a severe form of acute lung injury that may be non-infectious in etiology. In our animal models, neuro-inflammation develops in both conditions, and this alters ventilatory patterns. We propose to map changes in the respiratory network activity and brain neuro-inflammation due to septic and anti-inflammatory therapies and whether these changes can be reversed by central anti-inflammatory therapies.

This project is a collaboration between Case Western Reserve University (CWRU), Cleveland, OH and the Florey Institute (Melbourne, Australia).



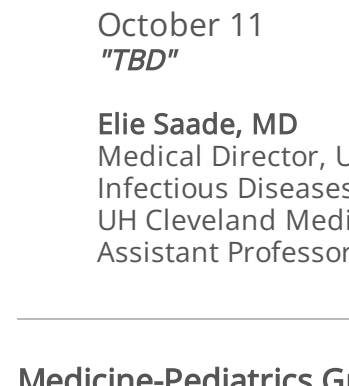
Pulmonary Function Testing (PFT) Research Lab

The Pulmonary Function Testing (PFT) Research Lab is growing and is ready to be used for any project.

Our lab can accommodate most scheduling needs. Our Respiratory Therapist can work with the Investigators or Coordinators to make sure all needs are met.

Please use the [RED Cap](#) request linked below to schedule.

[PFT Lab Redcap >](#)



Lung Force Run/Walk

The Pulmonary Clinical Research Team will participate in the Lung Walk on Oct. 15th to help promote research, research education and community awareness.

If you would like to participate and join the walk for free, register by looking up the team name "Respiratory Responders" on the site below.

[Lung Force Website >](#)

Education News

Coffee Kudos - Quarterly Resident Teaching Recognitions

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR RESIDENTS for teaching the medical students.

The Coffee Kudos Award is a quarterly resident teacher recognition award. The awards are given to the Internal Medicine residents who were also awarded beyond in their teaching of 3rd year IM clerkship rotation students as selected by the 3rd year CWRU Internal Medicine clerkship students on service at UH/CMC.

Each award winner receives a personalized thank you note along with a package of yummy chocolate espresso beans since the coffee connection bar remains closed.

July, August, September 2022 honorees:

- Sanjana Datta, MD
- Gates Sailing, MD
- Tibb Le, MD
- Maggie Lutz, MD
- Parshuraj, MD
- Akash Keluch Chavan, MD
- Imran Nahin, MD
- Tom O'Neill, MD
- Sherin Salham, MD
- Anna Rothstein, MD
- Anna Zhang, MD

Thank you to the residents for all their amazing work!

Welcome to the Department



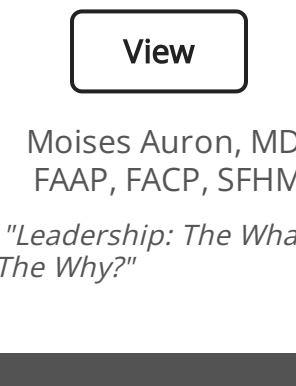
Andrew Catanzaro, MD
Division of Gastroenterology & Liver Disease
Assistant Professor
Case Western Reserve University



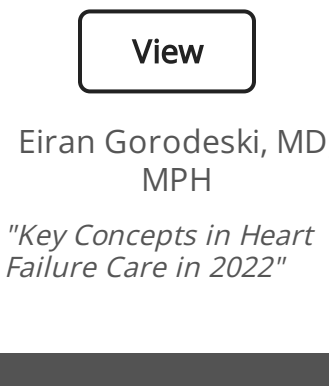
Erica Chuhay
Administrator
Division of Benign & Malignant Hematology



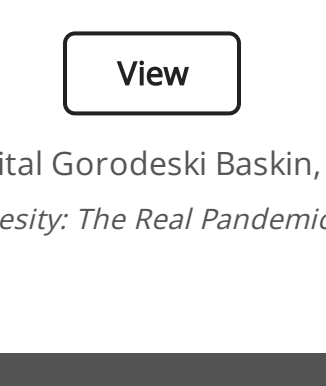
Naji Mallat, MD
Division of Solid Tumor Oncology
Assistant Professor
Case Western Reserve University



Lauren Chlec, MD
Division of Solid Tumor Oncology
Assistant Professor
Case Western Reserve University



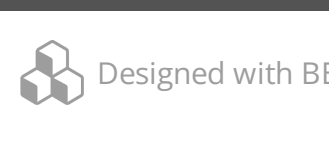
Giselle Dutcher, MD
Division of Solid Tumor Oncology
Assistant Professor
Case Western Reserve University



Qian Wang, MD
Division of Solid Tumor Oncology
Assistant Professor
Case Western Reserve University



Saket Chakrabarti, MD
Division of Solid Tumor Oncology
Associate Professor
Case Western Reserve University



Amit Mahipal, MD
Division of Solid Tumor Oncology
Professor
Case Western Reserve University



Dennis Jurcovic, MD
Division of Solid Tumor Oncology
Clinical Assistant Professor
Case Western Reserve University

Aria Bryan, DO
Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care & Sleep Medicine
Assistant Professor
Case Western Reserve University

Toufik Madhun, MD
Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care & Sleep Medicine
Assistant Professor
Case Western Reserve University

Pedro C. Barata, MD, MSc
Division of Solid Tumor Oncology
Director of GU Medical Oncology Research Program
Associate Professor
Case Western Reserve University

Santosh Bhushal, MD
Division of Rheumatology
Associate Professor
Case Western Reserve University

Dr. Bhushal obtained his medical degree (MBBS) from Nepal Medical College, Kathmandu, Nepal in 2006. He subsequently completed Internal Medicine Residency Training in June 2012 at Fairview Hospital, Cleveland, Ohio. He worked as a Hospitalist at Mount Healthy Medical Center for 2 years then joined Rheumatology fellowship training at Metro-Health Medical Center, Case Western Reserve University. He was appointed as Clinical Instructor of Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, at the UPMC Shadyside location, in 2016.

In 2019, due to his further interests in teaching/academia, he joined Penn State Hershey Medical Center as the Assistant Professor of Medicine. His responsibilities included providing consultation for Rheumatology patients, supervision of Rheumatology fellows at Fellows clinic and inpatient rounds, and organizing schedules for mentee physicians. He is joining the Division of Rheumatology at UH as the Associate Fellowship Program Director and will practice at Chagrin/Mentel, Brookside, and Mather Clinics.

Claudia Lewis, PA-C
Division of Endocrinology
Diabetes and Obesity Center

Claudia Lewis, PA-C is very excited to join UH's Diabetes and Obesity Center. She will be helping expand the inpatient diabetes management team, as well as implementing a post-hospital discharge clinic. Her research experience at The Ohio State University includes serving as a co-investigator and President's Prize semi-finalist for the development of a simulation platform for diabetes self-management and technology education. She has spoken at the American Association of Diabetes Educators conference on empowering young adults with diabetes. She was also identified as a College Diabetes Network National leader and was awarded the 2022 DiabetesMine Patient Educator Award. Her passion is connecting with people with diabetes and providing them with education and support to help them live their highest quality life.

Upcoming Events

Medicine Grand Rounds
October 11
"TBD"
Elie Saade, MD
Medical Director, UH Infection Control Program
UH Cleveland Medical Center
Assistant Professor, CWRU School of Medicine

Medicine-Pediatrics Grand Rounds
October 13
"Supporting Pediatric Patients with Disabilities as they Transition into Adulthood" (Zoom Only)
Erin Babbitt, PsyD
Pediatric Neuropsychology
UH Cleveland Medical Center
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Kimberly Burkhardt, PhD
Pediatric Psychology & Pediatric Developmental and Behavioral
UH Cleveland Medical Center
Assistant Professor, CWRU School of Medicine

15th Annual Cardiovascular Disease Update
October 15 (Saturday) 8:00am - 3:30pm
HYBRID EVENT
In-person at Tinkham Veale University Center
11028 Bellflower Rd
Cleveland, OH 44106
or
Virtual via Zoom
[Click here to view the flyer \(PDF\) for agenda and registration information.](#)

Medicine Grand Rounds
October 18
"Radiation Treatment for Spine Metastases" (Zoom Only)
Saad Sheikh, MD
Chief Resident
Radiation Oncology
UH Seidman Cancer Center

Medicine Grand Rounds
October 25
"TBD - Roe v. Wade" (Hybrid - Zoom / Kulas)
David Hackney, MD, MS
Division Chief, Maternal Fetal Medicine
UH Cleveland Medical Center
Stephanie Teal, MD, MPH
Obstetrician and Gynecologist-in-Chief
Chair, Dept of Obstetrics & Gynecology,
UH Cleveland Medical Center
Clinical Professor
CWRU School of Medicine

Interstitial Lung Disease Symposium
November 3
Hosted by the Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine
When: Noon to 5:00 pm
Where: Hybrid
- Bolwell 6th floor Conference Room
- Zoom - TBA

Recurring Events (zoom information sent out weekly)
Tuesdays @ Noon - **Medicine Grand Rounds Seminar Series** (September - May)
Wednesdays @ Noon - **VA Care Conference**
Fridays @ Noon - **UH M&M Conference**

Recent Medicine Grand Rounds

Curtis Donskey, MD
"Monkeypox: Diagnosis, Management & Prevention"

Michael M. Lederman, MD
Charles C.J. Carpenter, MD Memorial Lecture
"Trained by the Tall Man"

Moises Auron, MD, FAAP, FACP, SFHM
"Leadership: The What? The Why?"

Eiran Gorodeski, MD, MPH
"Key Concepts in Heart Failure Care in 2022"

Revital Gorodeski Baskin, MD
"Obesity: The Real Pandemic"

[Click here to view online](#)

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To contribute, email: Matthew.Zaleski@uhhospitals.org