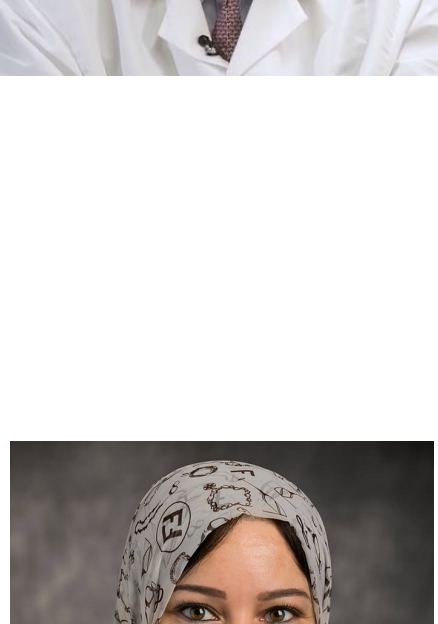




The Lab of Medical Miracles Inside University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center

A Laboratory of Hope

The Director of the Wesley Center for Immunotherapy was interviewed during an in-depth look at the new cellular therapy lab that the WKYC Chief Health Correspondent Monica Robbins says "will change the way cancer is treated and perhaps take medical science in Cleveland further than it's ever been."

Says **Koen von Besien, MD, PhD**: "Very few institutions around the country have the setup that we do at UH and Seidman Cancer Center. We are really well-placed to contribute to this groundbreaking and novel research."

[Watch the WKYC video >](#)



UH Geauga Medical Center Nephrologist Lives Out Childhood Dream

Nor many 6-year-old girls declare that they want to grow up to be a nephrologist. But not many have had the background and experiences of **Nisreen Elfidawy, MD** – now a nephrologist on the medical staff at UH Geauga Medical Center.

Experiences Spark Interest

As a child growing up in the small township of Mansoura in the Delta region of Egypt, young Nisreen would tag along with her father as he visited dialysis wards. He was not a physician, but instead supervised and managed the dialysis units. **Dr. Elfidawy** says she also became interested in the field through interactions with nephrologists in Mansoura township, which is internationally known for high-quality kidney care.

Story continues...

[View the full article here >](#)



University Hospitals Glomerular Diseases Program

We are pleased to announce the launch of a new program at University Hospitals that offers cutting-edge care for patients with glomerular disease, including the opportunity to participate in clinical trials.

Our program comprises a team of specialists from various disciplines, including nephrology, rheumatology, pathology, and pharmacology, who work together to diagnose and treat complex glomerular conditions. By conducting clinical trials, we hope to provide patients with access to the most advanced therapies and treatments available, while simultaneously expanding our knowledge of these diseases.

Our goal is to provide personalized care that addresses the underlying causes of glomerular disease and maximizes patient outcomes. We are committed to remaining at the forefront of research and innovation in glomerular disease, and we are excited to offer our patients the highest quality of care with compassion and expertise.

Referrals to the clinic can be made by placing a consult under "Nephrology - Glomerular Disease Clinic Referral" in the EMR, by sending a direct email to niraj.desai@uhhospitals.org, or by calling (216) 844-8272 or (216) 844-8500.

We look forward to serving our patients and providing them with the highest quality of care available



2023 UH Lupus Summit

2023 UH Virtual Summit

10 AM - 12 PM on Saturday, May 6, 2023

Presented by: The Lupus Foundation of America, Greater Ohio Chapter

- The summit is FREE, but registration is required.
- Once registered, you will receive information on how to access the webinar through GoToWebinar.
- Everyone that registers, attends, and submits an evaluation will receive a \$10 Panera e-gift card!

[Click here to Register >](#)



Second Annual UH CINEMA Symposium

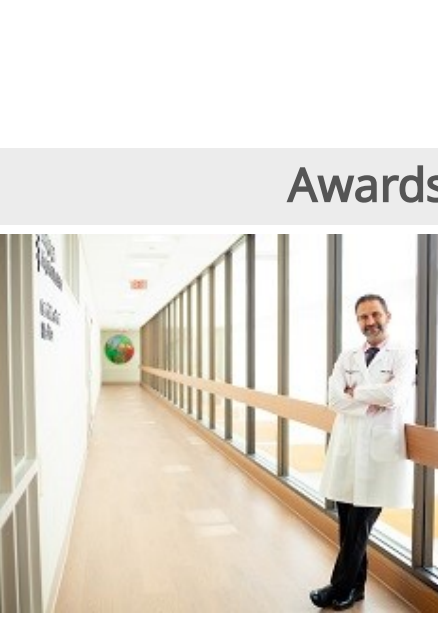
The **2023 CINEMA Symposium** – Harmonizing Guidelines for Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD), Type 2 Diabetes (T2D), and Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) will be a one-day multidisciplinary educational event that will take place on **Thursday, June 8, 2023 from 6:00-8:30pm** and be held at the **Tinkham Veale University Center** on the campus of Case Western Reserve University.

This event will be open to a diverse group of medical professionals who care for patients with CKD in Type 2 diabetes including primary care, nephrology, endocrinology, and cardiology. The aim of the symposium is to bring together a multidisciplinary group of experts in CKD in T2D (and CVD) to have a roundtable discussion on how to harmonize practice guidelines between specialties for optimal care of patients with CKD in T2D.

This event will include an in-person cocktail hour and networking event with heavy hors d'oeuvres in an exhibiting space followed by a CME panel discussion by distinguished University Hospitals leaders in primary care, nephrology, endocrinology and cardiology.

This panel will be made up of the following leaders:
Dr. Ewa Gross, Primary Care
Dr. Karen Monheim, Primary Care
Dr. Peter Pronovost, Population Health
Dr. Mahboob Rahman, Nephrology
Dr. Aparna Padiyar, Nephrology
Dr. Sanjay Rajagopalan, Cardiology
Dr. Ian Newland, Cardiology
Dr. Sadeer Al-Kindi, Cardiology
Dr. Revital Gorodeski Baskin, Endocrinology
APP, Caitlin Omerogie, Endocrinology

[Click here to Register >](#)



DOM Research Day - Still time to Register

The Department of Medicine's Thirteenth Annual Research Day

- **When:** Friday, May 12th, with talks and lunch starting at 10:00. Poster presentations will follow and wrap up by 4 p.m.
- **Where:** Tinkham Veale University Center's Kelvin & Eleanor Smith Foundation Grand 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.

[Click here to Register \(required for all\) >](#)

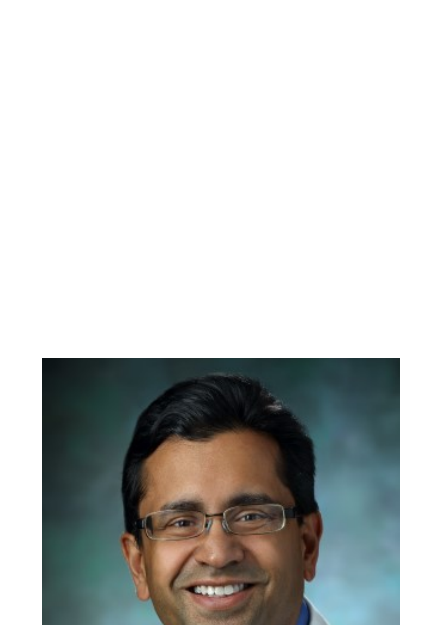
The plenary talks will be broadcast over Zoom from the ballroom. Poster presentations will be done in-person following the talks. We hope that you will join us for what promises to be an exciting and informative afternoon.

Plenary Sessions:

- **Varun Sundaram MD, PhD**
 - "Path of early to mid-career clinician scientist in heart failure: From epidemiology to clinical trials"
- **Sadeer Al-Kindi, MD**
 - "The Neighborhood Environmental Exposome and Cardiovascular Risk"
- **Seth Field, MD, PhD**
 - "The Great Escape: A Mechanism to Exit the Golgi and How That Drives Cancer"

We look forward to seeing you there!

Awards - Appointments - Publications



Mehdi H. Shishehbor, DO, MPH, PhD published in the New England Journal of Medicine

Transcatheter Arterialization of Deep Veins in Chronic Limb-Threatening Ischemia

Arterial revascularization is standard care for patients with chronic limb-threatening ischemia, the most advanced form of peripheral artery disease. In the United States, the annual prevalence and incidence of chronic limb-threatening ischemia in patients over the age of 40 years are estimated to be 1.33% and 0.35%, respectively, which translates to up to 1 million patients in the Medicare population alone. Despite advances in surgical and endovascular treatment, up to 20% of patients with chronic limb-threatening ischemia are not candidates for revascularization (referred to here as no-option), primarily owing to the lack of an arterial target for distal runoff or an appropriate conduit for surgical bypass. Without the restoration of blood flow, no-option chronic limb-threatening ischemia has a characteristic by pain, nonhealing wounds, and gangrene will progress to major (above-ankle) amputation in most cases. Major amputation for chronic limb-threatening ischemia is associated with 50% mortality within a year after amputation in patients over 65 years of age; mortality is higher among patients with coexisting cardiovascular conditions.

[View the Article Here >](#)



Dr. Debra Leizman Inducted as a Master of the American College of Physicians

Debra Leizman, MD, and newly MACP, is an Associate Professor of Medicine in the Division of General Internal Medicine, Director of the Internal Medicine Clerkship Program, Director of Undergraduate Medical Education at UH, and a UH Distinguished Physician.

The first Mastership in the College was presented in 1923 to Dr. James M. Anders, who served the College as President for two terms. He was recognized for extraordinary service to the College and for being one of the most outstanding internists and medical teachers of his day.

ACP Bylaws state that Masters shall be Fellows who have been selected because of "integrity, positions of honor, impact in practice or in medical research, or other attainments in science or in the art of medicine." Masters must be highly accomplished persons demonstrating impressive practice, leadership, or in medical research. Evidence of their achievements can come from many types of endeavors such as renown within their field and/or ACP chapter, research, education, health care initiatives, volunteerism, administrative positions, care of patients, and service to their community.

Dr. Leizman is only the second woman in the Ohio chapter to be inducted as a Master of the American College of Physicians.

Congratulations Dr. Leizman!



Dr. Susheel Patil elected to the Board of Directors of the American Academy of Sleep Medicine

Congratulation to Dr. Susheel Patil, who has been elected to the Board of Directors of the American Academy of Sleep Medicine!

The AASM (<https://aasm.org/>) is the premier and only professional society exclusively dedicated to the medical subspecialty of sleep medicine.

About American Academy of Sleep Medicine

Mission
Advancing sleep care and enhancing sleep health to improve lives
Vision
Sleep is recognized as essential to health.
History
Established in 1975 as the Association of Sleep Disorders Centers, the American Academy of Sleep Medicine (AASM) is the only professional society dedicated exclusively to the medical subspecialty of sleep medicine.



University Hospitals' Disinfection Technology, Supported by UH Ventures' Feuer Innovation Accelerator, Chosen for Department of Homeland Security Start-Up Program

A unique, high-level disinfection system, first developed and tested at University Hospitals to disinfect PPE at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, has been accepted to be part of the 2023 Homeland Security Startup Studio (HSSS). UH is one of just 10 research centers nationwide and the only health system chosen to participate in this prestigious program.

Prestigious collaborators: The disinfection system selected to be part of this year's HSSS was developed in collaboration with NASA Glenn Research Center by UH researchers **Shine Raju, MD**, and **Amrita John, MD**. It uses a modification of an atomic oxygen (or oxygen free radicals) without the use of chemicals, reducing the potential for spreading infection. **Dr. Raju** and **Dr. John** are currently working on a second-generation prototype with UH Ventures, the innovation and commercialization arm of UH, with the goal of making high-level disinfection available outside of health care settings.

[Read More Here >](#)

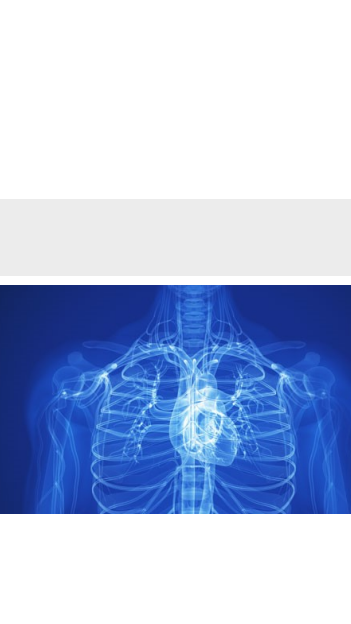


Academy of Scholar Educators

Education is the cornerstone from which an Academic Medicine program is built.

Please join us in congratulating **Drs. Maya Mattar, Elaine Cruz and Nilu Desai** who have been accepted as Scholars in the Academy of Scholar Educators at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine.

This represents a significant achievement in medical education. These individuals are recognized by their sustained and significant contributions to excellence and innovation in medical education. Our distinguished faculty will also receive public recognition for this honor at the 2023 Educators Awards Ceremony and Reception on Thursday, May 4, 2023, in the Health Education Campus. Drs. Mattar, Cruz and Desai join more than 60 other faculty in this select group, many of which are in our program. Congratulations!



Dr. Magrey Published in the American College of Rheumatology - Open Rheumatology

The International Map of Axial Spondyloarthritis Survey: A US Patient Perspective on Diagnosis and Burden of Disease

Marina N. Magrey, MD, is a Professor of Medicine and Chief of the Division of Rheumatology.

The study demonstrated that a significant delay in diagnosis of axial spondyloarthritis continues to remain a problem in the USA, particularly in women.

This is one of the first studies in the US to provide details of how patients with axial spondyloarthritis adapt to their disease and impact on interpersonal relationships.

[PubMed Link to Article >](#)



Amit Mahipal, MD published in Oncology Times

TOPAZ-1 Trial
Defining Immunotherapy in Biliary Tract Cancers

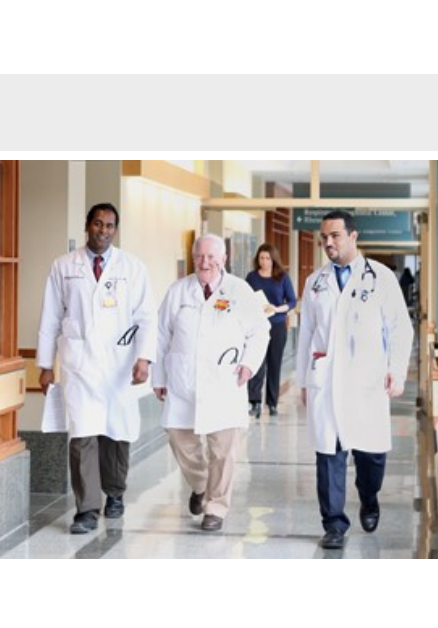
Biliary tract cancers (BTCs) are a rare, heterogeneous group of cancers with distinct clinical and molecular features. BTCs are anatomically classified into intrahepatic, hilar, and extrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma and gallbladder carcinoma.¹ The incidence of BTCs, especially intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma, has been rising for the last few decades.

Unfortunately, the majority of the patients with BTCs present at an advanced stage and have a very poor prognosis with a 5-year survival of less than 5 percent. Systemic therapy remains the mainstay of treatment for patients with advanced BTCs.

The development of systemic therapy for BTCs has been extremely slow with limited advancement for more than a decade. Recently, due to a better understanding of molecular mechanisms of carcinogenesis in BTCs, there have been multiple novel therapeutic agents that have been FDA-approved in the last 2 years.^{2,3} Many of them involve targeted therapies for patients with specific genomic alterations.

[Link to Article >](#)

Research News



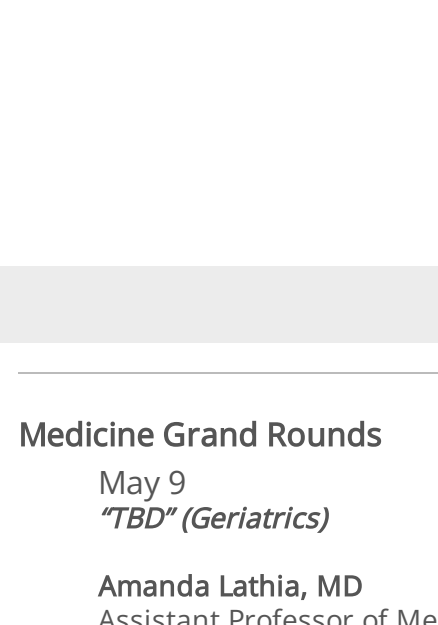
CWRU and UH researchers secure \$6.2 million from NIH to investigate using artificial intelligence to predict cardiovascular

Researchers from Case Western Reserve University and University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center (UH) have secured \$6.2 million from two grants awarded in the same month from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to predict cardiovascular disease through new artificial intelligence (AI) approaches.

The study will employ cutting-edge AI techniques using machine- and deep-learning models to recognize complex patterns in medical images to produce precise insights and predictions.

The study is co-led by **Dr. Sanjay Rajagopalan**, chief of the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine, chief academic and scientific officer of UH Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute and the Herman K. Hellestein, MD, chair in Cardiovascular Research, and David Wilson, the Robert Herbold Professor of Biomedical Engineering (BME) at the Case School of Engineering at Case Western Reserve, an expert in imaging AI, with additional leadership support from **Dr. Sadeer Al-Kindi**, co-director of the Center for Integrated and Novel Approaches and associate professor at the School of Medicine, and **Satish Viswanath**, assistant professor at the School of Medicine.

[Read more >](#)



Making a Case for Cancer Research Funding in Washington

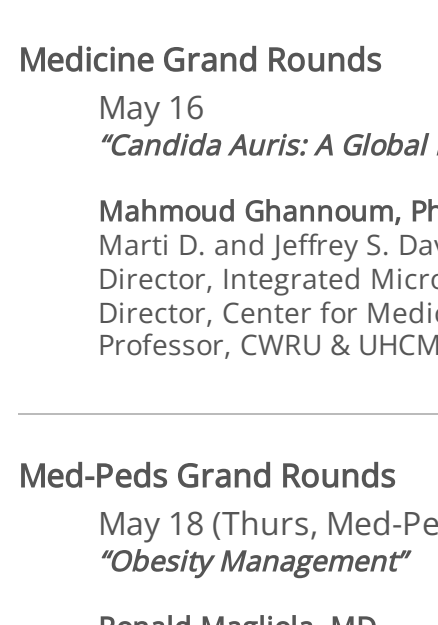
A cancer research fellow in UH's Gastroenterology and Hepatology Department was among 20 students, trainees and early-career scientists and physicians to attend American Association for Cancer Research's (AACR) 8th annual AACR Early-career Hill Day in March.

Blanca Ishaq, MD, PhD, (pictured - second from left) who is mentored by **Fabio Cominelli, MD, PhD**, and **Gregory Cooper, MD**, conducts research focused on inflammatory bowel disease and inflammation-driven colon cancer. She has represented UH Seidman Cancer Center at this event since 2020.

The AACR Early-career Hill Day is an opportunity for graduate and medical students, postdoctoral fellows and other early-career cancer researchers to meet with members of Congress and/or their staffs to convey the importance of robust, sustained and predictable federal funding for medical research. The participants will call on Congress to provide at least \$50.024 billion for the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) foundational work, a \$3.465 billion increase over the fiscal year (FY) 2023 program level. They will also encourage members of Congress to provide \$9.988 billion for the National Cancer Institute (NCI), an increase of \$2.6 billion, as recommended in the NCI Director's Professional Judgment Budget.

[Read more >](#)

Education News



2024 Coaching Opportunity

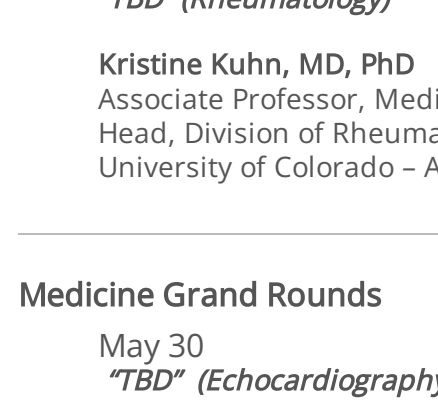
Would you like to have an opportunity to connect with our residents?

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

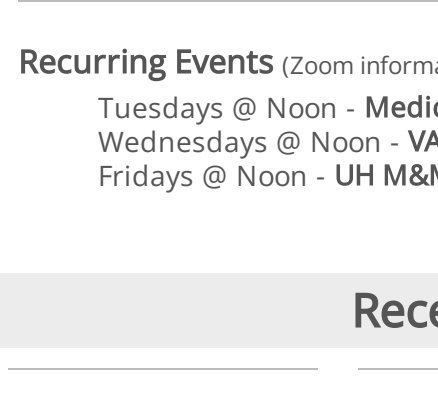
We would pair you with an intern with whom you would have a longitudinal relationship over three years. Your commitment would be up to four 45-minute sessions with the intern over the course of the year where you would meet to discuss their personal and professional goals. There will be a faculty development session (2-hour program or can view online) in June to prepare you to be the 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 Simi.Singh@va.gov or **Ronda Mourad** at Ronda.Mourad@va.gov.

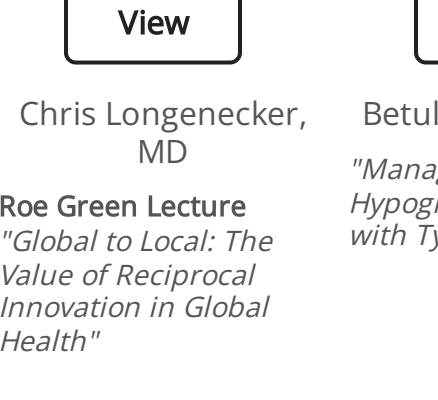
Upcoming Events



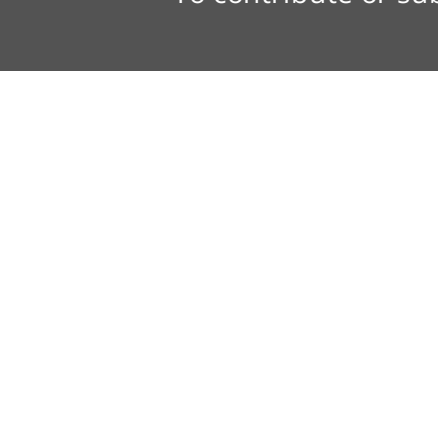
Amanda Lathia, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine
CWRU School of Medicine
Chief, Division of Geriatrics and Palliative Care
UH Cleveland Medical Center



[REGISTER HERE](#) (required for all)



Bhupendar Tayal, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine
CWRU School of Medicine
Division of Cardiovascular Medicine
UH Cleveland Medical Center



Click [here to view online](#)

UH Medicine © all rights reserved 2023

To contribute or submit feedback, email: Matthew.Zelenski@UHhospitals.org

Designed with BEE