



Top News



The Department of Medicine Mourns the Loss of its Chair, Dr. Robert Salata

Robert Salata, MD, led the Department for the past eight years.

Much has been said in the past few days about Dr. Salata's career and numerous accomplishments. Those words can be found in the many articles and stories linked below.

This Friday at noon in Kulas Auditorium we are going to have a remembrance session for Dr. Salata. Longtime colleagues will share reflections on his life and legacy. All members of the Department of Medicine are welcome, and we welcome colleagues to share any memories and reflections. We encourage in person attendance, but there be a zoom option- the link and an outlook invite will be sent later today or tomorrow..

Remembrance Session Honoring Dr. Salata

Friday, September 6 at Noon

In person: Kulas Auditorium

Virtual: Details will be sent separately

Keith Armitage, MD, Executive Vice Chair and Program Director in the Department of Internal Medicine, Robert A. Salata, MD, Chair in Infectious Diseases and **Betul Hatipoglu, MD**, Vice Chair System Clinical Affairs, Medical Director of the Diabetes & Obesity Center, and the Mary B. Lee Chair in Adult Endocrinology, have agreed to serve as Interim Co-Chairs of the Department of Medicine.

[Read Dr. Salata's Obituary »](#)



University Hospitals - On the Passing of Dr. Robert Salata

A message from UH CEO Cliff A. Megerian, MD; Daniel I. Simon, MD, President, Academic & External Affairs and Chief Scientific Officer; and Nicole Maronian, MD, acting President of UHMG and interim President of UHPS (Full article from the UH Intranet)

It is with a heavy heart that I pass along news of the death of Robert Salata, MD, FACP, FIDSA, whose brilliance was surpassed only by his kindness. His impact on both University Hospitals and Case Western Reserve University is immense.

Dr. Salata was the STERIS Chair of Excellence in Medicine at UH, the John H. Hord Professor and Chairman, Department of Medicine at Case Western Reserve University, the Physician-in-Chief, Distinguished Physician and Senior Attending Physician at UH Cleveland Medical Center, and Director of the UH Roe Green Center for Travel Medicine & Global Health. But the titles only hint at the full measure of the person – as a physician, educator, mentor and colleague.

Bob graduated from the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine after completing his undergraduate studies at the University of Notre Dame. He then served his internship and residency in internal medicine at UH. After a fellowship at the University of Virginia Medical Center studying infectious disease, he returned to UH as Chief Resident in 1985.

He served as Chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases and HIV Medicine for nearly 20 years at Case and UH. He was the founding Director of the Infectious Diseases and Immunology Institute in the School of Medicine. He served as Chair of Chairs and Medical Director of Infection Control and Prevention at UH Cleveland Medical Center.

Bob was a local, regional and national leader during the COVID-19 pandemic. His renowned research in infectious disease served as one of the many reasons University Hospitals became site 001 for the Remdesivir clinical trial, one of the first treatments for COVID-19, and then eventually the Pfizer COVID-19 mRNA vaccine, where he led that clinical trial. He was a tireless educator of physicians and the public alike, making numerous appearances in local and national media, and leading local and national webinars for the community on COVID-19 as the pandemic unfolded.

He was a humble leader and a calming presence in the COVID-19 Command Center. He was constantly gathering the latest information from infectious disease colleagues around the country and world, asking what new challenges they were facing, discussing different symptoms, brainstorming ways to take care of patients and prevent the spread of this disease.

While his talents were honed in Cleveland, his impact was felt around the world, and will continue to be. Bob was an active principal investigator on HIV/AIDS-related research studies for the Uganda-Case Western Reserve University Research Collaboration since 1997.

His research interests included the epidemiology of infectious diseases, clinical trials of new therapeutic agents for emerging infections and clinical HIV/AIDS research related to anti-retrovirals, as well as the epidemiology and prevention of HIV. His work on clinical trials resulted in continuous funding for these activities from the National Institutes of Health. Building on decades of a collaboration in Uganda, he also facilitated the involvement of multiple other areas of chronic non-communicable diseases in global health, including cardiovascular medicine, oncology, neurology and genetics.

Bob worked with philanthropist and world traveler Roe Green as well as Case Western Reserve on a gift to advance global health initiatives from each institution and establish a state-of-the-art research hub called the Case Western Reserve University and University Hospitals Roe Green Medical Education and Research Building in Kampala, Uganda. The collaborative gives rise to a central facility to conduct research, meetings, training and medical care.

But his most lasting legacy -- outside of his family -- might be the generations of physicians he inspired and mentored. Countless physicians have cited Bob's clinical excellence, compassion and genuine interest in them as key factors that guided them through their most difficult moments of training and early academic career development. He will be remembered for his kindness, compassion, sage wisdom, and calm demeanor overlying a tenacious and fearless commitment to helping his patients and global populations.

Bob was a consummate clinician and educator. He was recognized with a Department of Medicine Teacher of the Year award, as a Master Clinician Educator in the Department of Medicine and the inaugural recipient of the Master Clinician in Infectious Diseases at UH Cleveland Medical Center. He was also recognized as a Distinguished Physician at University Hospitals.

Bob wrote hundreds of peer-reviewed publications. He served as the Chair of the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine (AAIM) Research Committee and was Vice-Chair of the APM Research Committee prior to that, and for two years, served as Chair of the 3rd Consensus Conference on the physician scientist and was first author of a 2017 Academic Medicine publication entitled "U.S. Physician-Scientist Workforce in the 21st Century: Recommendations to Attract and Sustain the Pipeline." He fostered various research initiatives through AAIM Research Committee, including Physician Scientist Residency Research, Education Research, the Innovation Grants program and new initiatives in Population Health Research as well as Research integrity.

Please keep Bob's family in your thoughts during this difficult time.

[Read the original article here \(UH Intranet\) »](#)



Case Western Reserve Daily

Alumnus, longtime faculty member and infectious disease expert Robert Salata passes away

Robert Salata arrived in Cleveland in the mid-1970s, ready to begin his MD studies at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. It was the start of a decades-long career in the city that would have remarkable impact in understanding and preventing infectious diseases, not only in Northeast Ohio but around the world. Today, members of the Case Western Reserve, University Hospitals and broader medical communities are mourning the loss of Salata, who died Aug. 26. He was 72.

A native of Youngstown, Ohio, Salata returned to Northeast Ohio to attend CWRU School of Medicine after earning his bachelor's degree from the University of Notre Dame. After graduating from medical school in 1979, he completed his internship and residency in internal medicine at UH, then accepted a fellowship at the University of Virginia Medical Center, studying infectious disease. He returned to CWRU as an instructor and UH as chief resident in 1985—and never left.

In his 36 years on the faculty of Case Western Reserve School of Medicine, Salata served in various roles, including as the John H. Hord Professor and chairman of the Department of Medicine and founding director of the Infectious Diseases and Immunology Institute. He also held a joint role as chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases and HIV Medicine for nearly 20 years at CWRU and UH.

[Read more on the Case Daily »](#)

Upcoming Events

Med-Peds Grand Rounds - Thursday, September 5

Value-Based Care (Virtual Only)

Navin Vij, MD, MSHP

Physician Scientist and Academic Hospitalist

ChristianaCare Value Institute

Remembrance Session Honoring Dr. Salata - Friday, September 6

Noon - Kulas Auditorium and Virtual

Medicine Grand Rounds - September 10

Repairing Patient-System Engagement to Deliver Care for Chronic Multimorbidities

Trygve Dolber, MD

Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Internal Medicine, CWRU School of Medicine

Associate Director, Population Behavioral Health

Department of Psychiatry, University Hospitals

Medicine Grand Rounds - September 17

Managing Infections in Patients with Opioid Use Disorder - Xylazine-Associated Wounds (Virtual Only)

Carolyn Kramer

Clinical Assistant Professor

Division of Infectious Diseases & Environmental Medicine

Thomas Jefferson University Hospital

Medicine Grand Rounds - September 24

Sepsis Awareness Month

Layla Sankari, MD

Assistant Professor of Medicine, CWRU School of Medicine

Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine

Department of Medicine, University Hospitals

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**

View »	View »	View »	View »
Pierre M. Gholam, MD, AGAF, FAASLD	Nami Azar, MD, MBA, FAIUM	Rick A. Nishimura, MD, MACC, MACP	George C. Tsokos, MD
<i>"MASH: The Ultimate Case for Multidisciplinary Care"</i>	<i>"Reimbursement - How to Balance the Business Side with Patient Care"</i>	<i>"Valvular Heart Disease: A New Paradigm 2024"</i>	<i>"Systemic Lupus Erythematosus: From Bedside to Bench and Back"</i>

Social:

[Click here to view online](#)

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

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