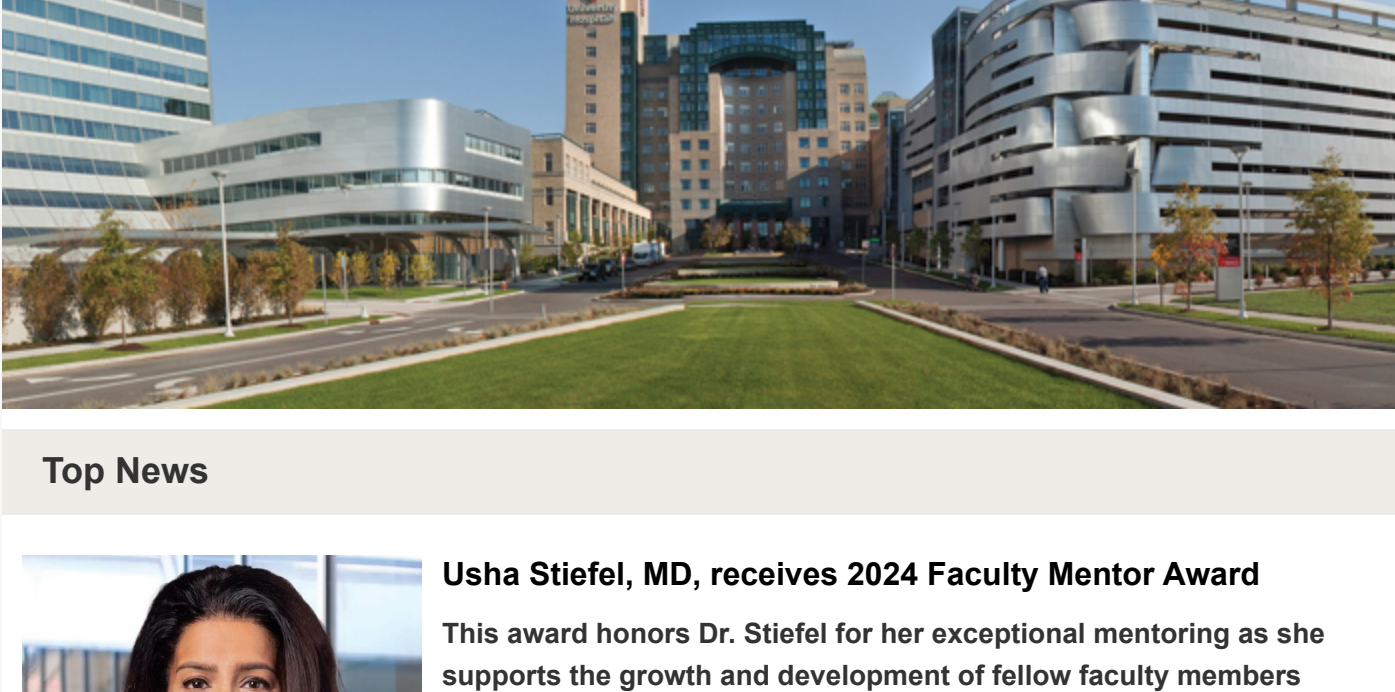
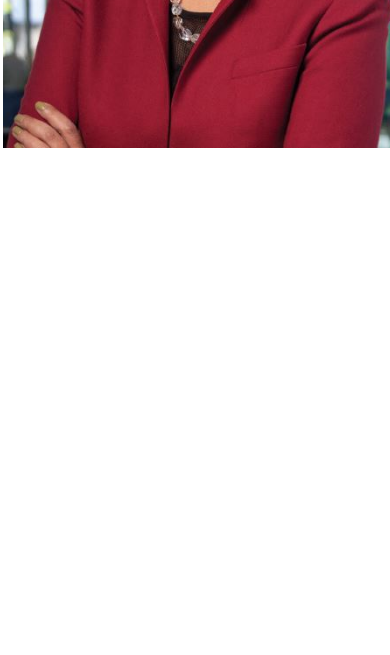




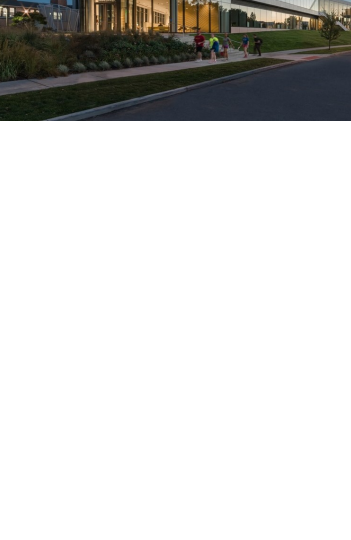
Top News

**Usha Stiefel, MD, receives 2024 Faculty Mentor Award**

This award honors Dr. Stiefel for her exceptional mentoring as she supports the growth and development of fellow faculty members

While there are many awards for teaching students and trainees at the school of medicine, the **Faculty Mentor Award**, the Faculty Diversity Award, and the Faculty STAR Award differ from these in that they annually recognize mentorship and support of fellow faculty. The nomination pool includes all faculty in the school of medicine community, and awardees are selected by a committee of faculty representatives from the school and its affiliate hospitals. This achievement was recognized at the School of Medicine's Faculty Recognition Celebration on September 23rd.

"In our fast-paced world that is the school of medicine I understand that sometimes it seems contributions go unnoticed, but I assure you they are never unappreciated" said **Dr. Stan Gerson**, Dean of the School of Medicine. "Our school provides an outstanding medical education and groundbreaking research that helps save lives, and none of this would be possible without faculty like (**Dr. Stiefel**). Her ability to create an environment that inspires others to not only do their best but to be their best selves every day – for our school, our university and our community."

**Video Tribute to Robert Salata, MD**

University Hospitals created a touching video tribute to Dr. Salata. Please click the link below to view.

[Video Tribute to Dr. Salata »](#)

**Medicine Quality Summit 2024: Leveraging Communication for Zero Harm**

Save the Date!

When: Saturday, December 7, 2024, 7:30am-12:00pm

Where: Tinkham-Weale University Center Grand Ballroom
(A light breakfast will be served at 7:00am)

Keynote Speaker: Michael A Rosen, PhD

Armstrong Institute for Patient Safety & Quality, Johns Hopkins University
Topic: *"Communication and Transition of Care in Hospital Setting: Leverage Epic in regards to Communication among physicians/providers"*

Breakout Session Topics: (Choice of 2)

- Complications of Care – DVT and AKI
- Diabetes & Obesity
- Telemedicine/e –consultations
- Lyme Disease – an emerging regional and national problem

A **wrap-up panel discussion** will follow the breakout sessions and conclude the Summit.

This event is free but will require registration.

CME will be available! This will include: CME, CRME, and MOC

Stay tuned for more info and registration links soon!

**Department of Medicine 2023 Annual Report**

The 2023 Department of Medicine Annual Report is now available. Click below to view an electronic version (PDF) of the annual report.

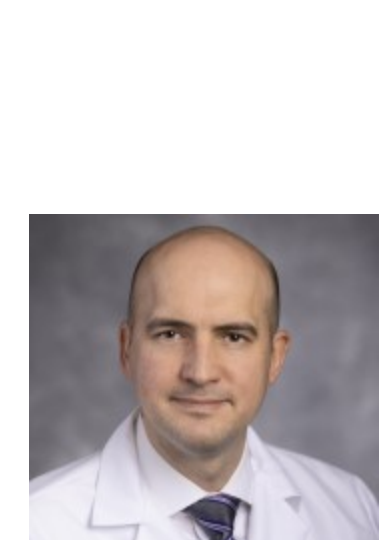
[DOM Annual Report \(PDF\) »](#)

UH Diabetes & Metabolic Care Center invite you to the upcoming Family Fun Day Celebration! Enjoy food trucks, activities, community support and resources!



You can reach out to Amanda.Lesniak@uhhospitals.org or Elizabeth.Pop@uhhospitals.org with any questions.

Clinical Updates and Research News

**Antimicrobial Stewardship Newsletter**

Issue 7 • Jul-Sep 2024

Topics in this Newsletter:

- Announcements and Updates
- Lyme Disease in Cuyahoga County
- Vancomycin-resistant Enterococcus Infections
- Vancomycin-resistant Enterococcus Infections at UHCMC
- Literature Review: Bling III
- Prolonged Infusion of β -lactams

[Read the ASP Newsletter »](#)

**Phase 1 BAFF CAR T Clinical Trial for Patients with Relapsed and Refractory Multiple Myeloma Underway at UH Seidman Cancer Center**

University Hospitals (UH) Seidman Cancer Center hematologist-oncologist **Leland Metheny, MD**, is leading the trial. He says in the two years since the foundational pre-clinical work was completed, the team has shown that it's feasible to manufacture BAFF CAR T-cells for human subjects. The innovation is introducing genes into T-cells via the process of electroporation in the Wesley Center for Immunotherapy at UH Seidman Cancer Center.

In January 2022, a research team from UH Seidman Cancer Center and Case Western Reserve University published a groundbreaking report in the journal Nature Communications, detailing a novel approach to chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy for B-cell cancers. The new B-cell activating factor (BAFF) CAR T product, developed by UH Seidman Cancer Center and Case Western Reserve University scientist **Reshmi Parameswaran, MS, PhD**, and colleagues, binds specifically to each of three receptors instead of one – BAFF-R, BCMA and TACI, providing more therapeutic options and guarding against the problem of antigen escape currently found in CAR T therapies that solely target CD19. Experimental results showed that the BAFF CAR T is effective at killing multiple B-cell cancers, with robust in vitro and in vivo cytotoxicity exerted by BAFF CAR T-cells against mantle cell lymphoma, multiple myeloma and acute lymphoblastic leukemia xenograft mouse models.

[Read more here »](#)

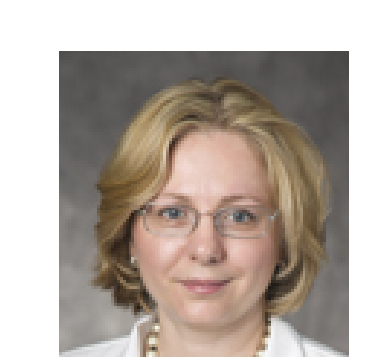
**Researchers Identify Potential Therapeutic Target for Management of Thirst Disorders**

The cerebellum, often referred to as the 'little brain', has captivated researchers for centuries due to its unique structure and cellular complexity, as one of the most ancient brain regions in evolutionary terms. It has traditionally been viewed only as a motor control center; however, recent studies have revealed its involvement in non-motor functions such as cognition, emotion, memory, autonomic function, satiety and meal termination.

In a recent mouse-model study, published in Nature Neuroscience, researchers at University Hospitals (UH), Harrington Discovery Institute at UH, and Case Western Reserve University have now found that the cerebellum also controls thirst, a major function necessary for survival. Specifically, the research team found that a hormone, asprosin, crosses from the periphery into the brain to activate Purkinje neurons in the cerebellum. This leads to an enhanced drive to seek and drink water.

"Asprosin, a hormone our lab discovered in 2016, is known to stimulate food intake and maintain body weight by activating key 'hunger' neurons in a part of the brain called the hypothalamus, and works by binding a protein on the neuron surface called a 'receptor,'" explained **Atul Chopra, MD, PhD**, senior author on the study, Investigator at Harrington Discovery Institute at UH and Associate Director of the Harrington Rare Disease Program, Attending Medical Geneticist at UH, and Associate Professor of Medicine, and Genetics and Genomics at Case Western Reserve School of Medicine.

[Read more here »](#)

**Blood, Heart, Lung and Immunity Research Center**

Request for Center Membership Applications

The Blood, Heart, Lung, and Immunology Research Center is a joint venture of Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine and University Hospitals of Cleveland dedicated to establishing a comprehensive, collaborative program that champions transformative leadership in research, training, and education for discovery scientists.

This new research center brings together the Cardiovascular Research Institute and comprehensively adds hematology and immunology discovery research with an endeavor to foster a culture of innovation that will propel advancements in understanding and treating blood, heart, lung, and immunologic diseases.

The Center provides transformative leadership in research, training, and education of discovery scientists that promotes the mechanistic understanding of, and advances treatments for blood, heart, lung and immunologic diseases.

The Blood, Heart, Lung, and Immunology Research Center is seeking membership applications. As a member, you'll have the chance to collaborate with experts, find funding and be eligible for pilot funding to advance your research.

[Additional Info and Apply for Membership »](#)

Awards - Appointments - Publications

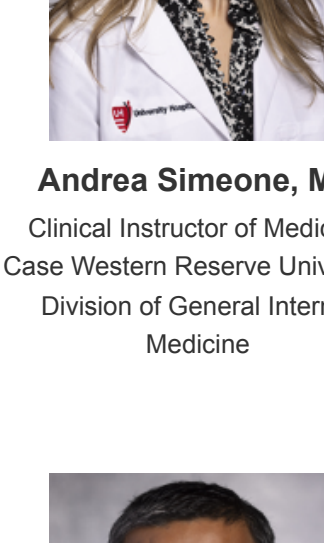
**A. Gene Copello Health Advocacy Fellowship**

Three DOM trainees selected as Doctors for America's Copello Health Fellows for 2024-2025!

They are: PGY2 **Adily Elmi, MD**, Chief Resident **Olivia Rizzo, MD**, and GI fellow **Jacques Halabi, MD**.

Doctors for America's Copello Fellowship program is a unique opportunity to build leadership and advocacy skills to improve the health of your patients and community. Twelve extraordinary leaders will meet monthly to learn from experts and each other about advocacy, action planning, media relations and communication strategy, engaging your legislators and so much more!

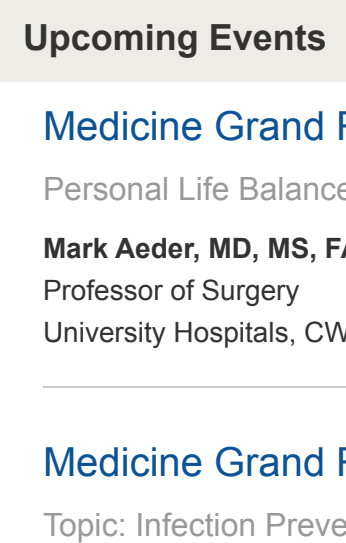
[Read more about the Fellowship here »](#)

**Dr. Katarina Greer's paper accepted in the American Journal of Gastroenterology**

In the publication, titled "ACG Clinical Guideline: Treatment of Helicobacter pylori Infection," **Dr. Greer** and co-authors used Grading of Recommendations, Assessment, Development, and Evaluation (GRADE) methodology to systematically analyze 11 Population, Intervention, Comparison, and Outcome (PICO) questions to generate recommendations.

"Guidelines are a major way we improve the care of patients," says Dr. Robert Bonomo, ACOS Academic Affairs, VA Northeast Ohio Healthcare System.

[Read the paper here »](#)

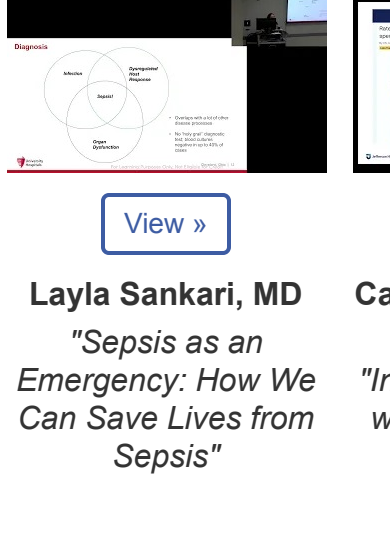
**Dr. Elie Saade Presents at AHA Leadership Summit on Human-Centered Design in Healthcare**

Dr. Elie Saade, System Medical Director of the Infection Control and Prevention Program at University Hospitals of Cleveland, was honored to speak at the AHA Leadership Summit in San Diego. He presented alongside distinguished panelists from the American Hospital Association (AHA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and hospital partners nationwide, discussing the application of Human-Centered Design to healthcare challenges, with a focus on infection prevention and control.

The session highlighted how teams, rather than individuals, drive successful infection prevention and control within hospitals and health systems. In four hospitals, multidisciplinary team members—including physicians, infection preventionists, nurses, quality experts, and other front-line workers—engaged in design sessions to identify promising opportunities for impact. These teams co-created solutions they were willing to adopt in their organizations.

Dr. Saade's contribution was on exploring opportunities around training sterile central venous catheter placement using emerging technology. He led a collaboration at University Hospitals that included infection prevention and control, UH Ventures, the internal medicine residency program, pulmonary-critical care, emergency medicine, anesthesiology, and interventional radiology. The team at University Hospitals was co-led by Kip Lee, PhD, Assistant Professor of Medicine and VP of Enterprise Strategy & Innovation at University Hospitals, and Design & Innovation/Medicine Faculty at Case Western Reserve University.

Attendees learned about the design process used and heard from leaders on how this approach supported changes in infection prevention behaviors of front-line teams, ultimately improving patient outcomes. This session was part of the "Transforming Track: Improving Care Delivery and Payment," reflecting **Dr. Saade's** dedication to innovative solutions in healthcare.

**Shigemi Matsuyama, PhD receives \$1.5M grant from Foundation Fighting Blindness to test possible new treatment for inherited retinal disease**

There's only one U.S. Food and Drug Administration-approved therapy for an inherited retinal disease, and dozens of retinitis pigmentosa (RP) genes for which no therapy is available.

With a new three-year, \$1.5 million grant from the Foundation Fighting Blindness, **Shigemi Matsuyama, DVM, PhD**, an associate professor of ophthalmology and visual sciences (Pathology, Pharmacology, Medicine - Oncology, General Medical Sciences, and the Case Comprehensive Cancer Center) at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, will test a possible breakthrough drug that can be taken by mouth—one that may address many RP disease manifestations, regardless of the underlying genetic mutation.

[Read more here »](#)

Welcome

Andrea Simeone, MD
Clinical Instructor of Medicine
Case Western Reserve University
Division of General Internal Medicine

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

Clement Pillainayagam, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine
Case Western Reserve University
Division of Hematology & Oncology

Abhinav Rajpal, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Case Western Reserve University
Division of Geriatrics & Palliative Care

Mohamed Swedeh, MD
Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine
Case Western Reserve University
Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care & Sleep Medicine

Layla Al Bizri, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Case Western Reserve University
Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care & Sleep Medicine

Upcoming Events

Personal Life Balance: Making Healthy Financial Decisions

Mark Aeder, MD, MS, FACS, FAST
Professor of Surgery
University Hospitals, CWRU

Medicine Grand Rounds - October 8

Topic: Infection Prevention

Nikki Lutz, MPH, CIC
Manager of Infection Prevention, Cleveland Medical Center

Medicine Grand Rounds - October 15

Teacher, Treater, Tester: Clinical Trials and Achieving the Triple Threat in Academic Medicine

Daniel C. Brennan, MD, FACP

Professor of Medicine, The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine
Medical Director, The Johns Hopkins Comprehensive Transplant Center

Medicine Grand Rounds - October 22

Topic: Asylum Medicine

Mackenzie Cater, MD

Internal Medicine/Pediatrics, Pediatrics,
University Hospitals

Bridget Haas, PhD

Visiting Assistant Professor
Department of Anthropology, CWRU

Medicine Grand Rounds - October 29

Topic: Relationship Between Diabetes and Cortisol

Speaker TBD

(Note: Will NOT be eligible for CME)

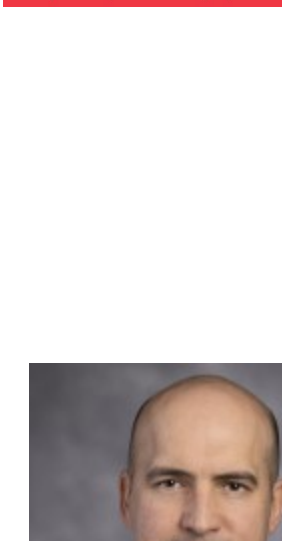
Recurring Events [\(Zoom information sent out weekly\)](#)

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

Wednesdays @ Noon - **VA Conference**

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

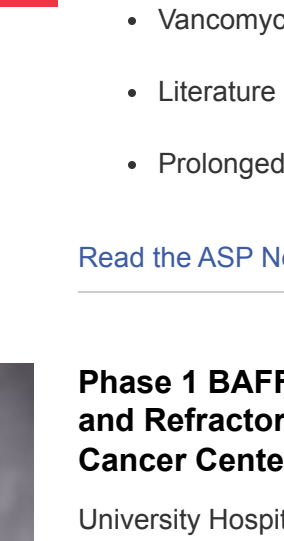
Recent Medicine Grand Rounds



[View »](#)

Layla Sankari, MD

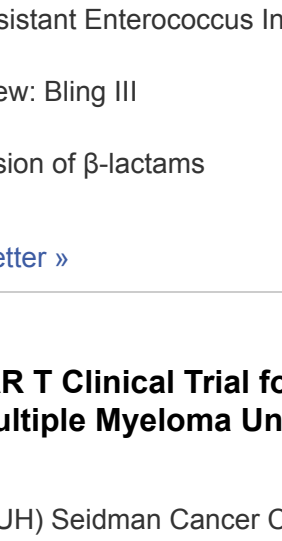
"Sepsis as an
Emergency: How We
Can Save Lives from
Sepsis"



[View »](#)

Carolyn Kramer, MD, MHS

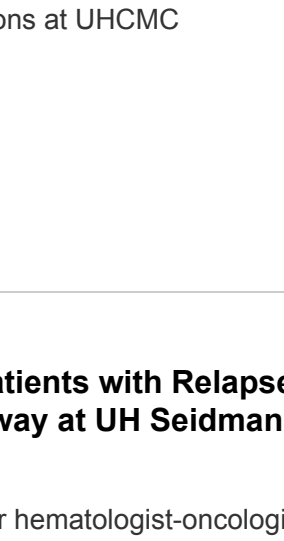
"Infections in Patients
with Substance Use
Disorder"



[View »](#)

Trygve Dolber, MD

"Personalized Care:
Targeting Chronic
Diseases that
Progress Despite the
Availability of Effective
Treatment"



[View »](#)

Katherine Daunov, MSN, AOCNP

"Young Adult
Oncology: Sex, Drugs,
& Medical
Appointments"

Social:



[Click here to view online](#)

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

UH, CWRU, LSVAMC Department of Medicine @all rights reserved 2024

