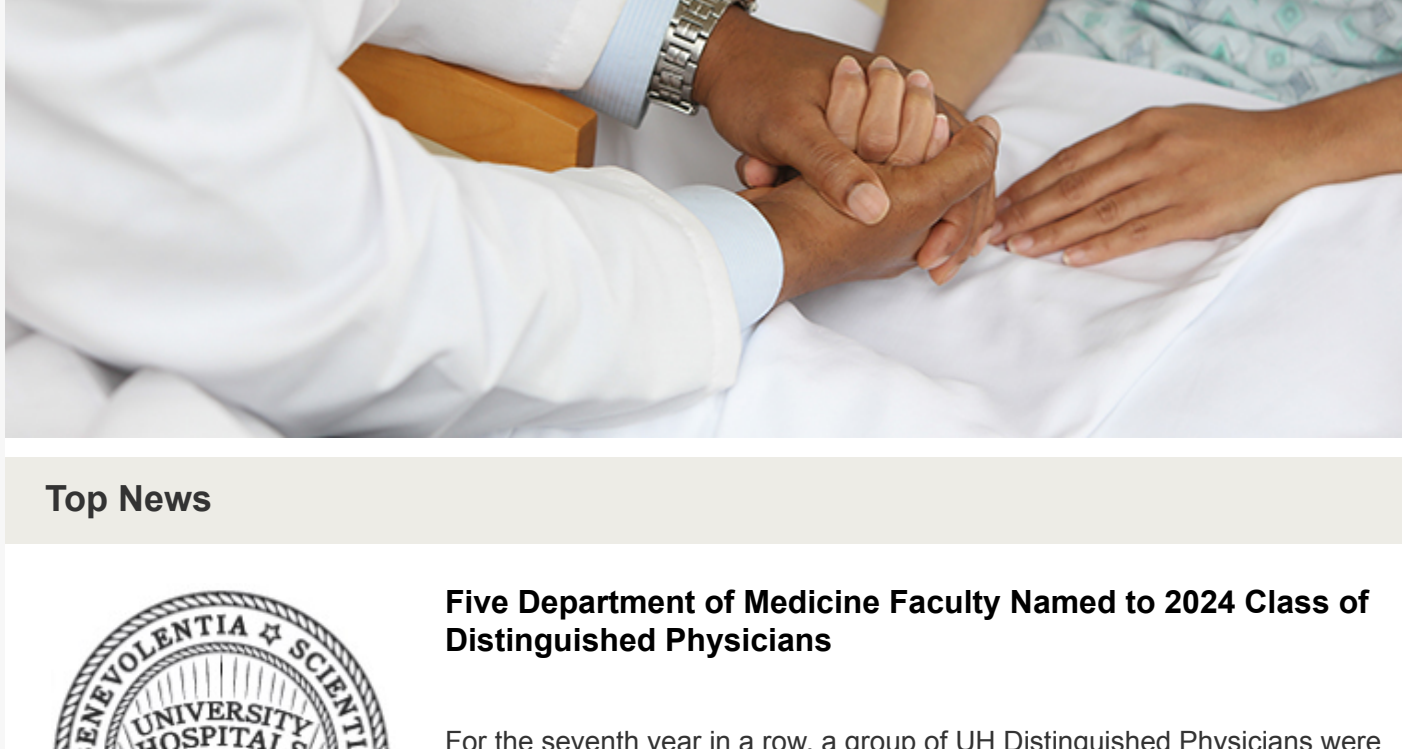




Top News



Five Department of Medicine Faculty Named to 2024 Class of Distinguished Physicians

For the seventh year in a row, a group of UH Distinguished Physicians were honored in a ceremony at the Ford Auditorium on the UH Cleveland Medical Center campus – 18 of them in all.

They receive this honor in recognition of their exceptional clinical skills and dedication to patient care. These are the physicians who are widely considered to be the “doctor’s doctors,” meaning they provide such extraordinary care that their colleagues turn to them to care for their loved ones, themselves and their patients.

They also serve as the top role models and mentors in the training of the next generation of physicians, including medical students, residents and fellows.

The awardees from the Department of Medicine are:

- **Ravi Ramani, MD, MMM**
- **Ellen M. Sabik, MD**
- **Jill C. Miller, MD**
- **Karen M. Monheim, MD**
- **David L. Bajor, MD**

Congratulations to all!



Department of Medicine Town Hall

Wednesday, December 11th from 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM at the Tinkham Veale University Center

On behalf of **Drs. Armitage and Hatipoglu**, interim co-chairs of the Department, we are hoping you are able to attend an in-person Department of Medicine Town Hall on Wednesday, December 11th from 5pm – 7:30pm at Tinkham Veale University Center in Ballroom B&C. If you are unable to attend in person, we will be providing a zoom link.

The current event details are as follows:
5:00-5:45 Networking
5:45-6:30 Town Hall meeting and Q & A
6:30-7:30 Networking and wrap up

[Please RSVP Here](#) »



Last Chance to Register for the 2024 Medicine Quality Summit in Honor of Dr. Robert A. Salata: Leveraging Communication for Zero Harm

When: Saturday, December 7, 2024, 7:30am-12:00pm
Where: Tinkham-Veale University Center Grand Ballroom
(A light breakfast will be served at 7:00am)

[Register Here](#)

(Last Chance! Registration closes tonight at midnight)

CME, CRME, and MOC credits are available at this event!

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

- **Title:** Hidden Dangers: Preventing Anticoagulation and AKI Complications
- **Speakers:** Teresa Carman, MD & Aparna Padiyar, MD

Diabetes & Obesity

- **Title:** All that Glitters is not gold: Pearls You Wish You Knew about GLP-1
- **Speaker:** Betul Hatipoglu, MD

Telemedicine–Consultations

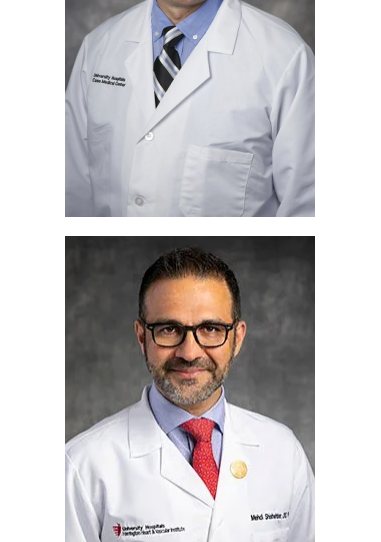
- **Title:** Care at your fingertips – Click & Connect
- **Speakers:** Jihane Faress, MD & Brian D’Anza, MD

Lyme Disease

- **Title:** Northeast Ohio with a twist of Lyme!
- **Speakers:** Keith B. Armitage, MD, MACP & Jay Krishnan, MD MPH

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

A virtual option is available.



Faculty Promotions - Important Dates

Faculty Senior-Level Promotion Deadlines

- [Non-Tenure Track Senior-Level Promotions effective January 1, 2026](#)
- Declaration form due January 6, 2025
 - Packet due February 28, 2025

[Non-Tenure Track Senior-Level Promotions effective July 1, 2026](#)

- Declaration form due May 1, 2025
- Packet due June 2, 2025

[Tenure Track Senior-Level Promotions effective July 1, 2026](#)

- Declaration form due March 31, 2025
- Packet due April 28, 2025

Faculty Junior-Level Promotion Deadlines

- For promotions to be made effective July 1, the date for submission is February 28.
- For promotions to be made effective January 1, the deadline for submission is September 30.

Emeritus/Emerita Appointment Deadlines

- For emeritus/emerita appointments to be made effective July 1, the deadline for submission is February 28.
- For emeritus/emerita appointments to be made effective January 1, the deadline for submission is September 30.

Please contact Cheryl Allis at
cheryl.allis@uhhospitals.org or cheryl.allis@case.edu
for additional information.

Clinical Updates and Research News

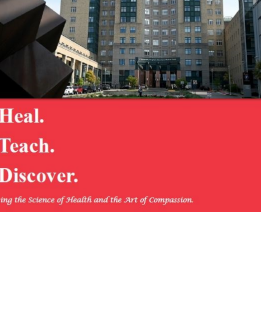


Many Medicine Investigators Featured at the UH Research and Education Institute’s Research Innovation Day

Fabio Cominelli, MD, PhD, is Chief Scientific Officer with the UH Digestive Health Institute, Division Chief of Gastroenterology at UH Cleveland Medical Center and holds the Hermann Menges Jr. Chair in Internal Medicine. He outlined his more than 30-year scientific quest to better understand and develop therapies for inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), which includes Crohn’s disease and ulcerative colitis and affects almost 3 million Americans. His group’s research focus is on cytokines – proteins that function as chemical messengers in the immune system.



Mehdi Shishehbor, DO, MPH, PhD, President of UH Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute and the Angela and James Hambrick Chair in Innovation, shared his pioneering work to develop a new and better treatment option for critical limb ischemia (CLI) – the most severe form of peripheral artery disease with a five-year mortality rate of 50%. After 20 years, the only approved therapy for CLI has been angioplasty. Patients considered “no option” are eligible only for primary amputation or treatment with medications.



Kayla Klatt, an MD/PhD student in the Medical Scientist Training Program at CWRU School of Medicine, was among the winners in the Research and Innovation abstract competition. Under the guidance of mentor **Reshmi Parameswaran, PhD**, Kayla has shown that a specific type of CAR T-cells may show promise against the rare autoimmune disease scleroderma.



Yunmei Wang, PhD, MBA, is Associate Professor of Medicine at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, where she works closely with researchers at UH Harrington Heart & Vascular Institute to study the mechanisms linking immune responses to inflammatory and thrombotic diseases, namely heart attack, stroke and atherosclerosis. Dr. Wang outlined her research showing how white blood cells called leukocytes interact with platelets in the blood to play a very important role in inflammatory and thrombotic diseases. These interactions, she says, contribute to blood clot formation and conditions that damage the myelin sheath of neurons, such as multiple sclerosis. Importantly, Dr. Wang and her colleague have worked to develop a safe antibody that can target this interaction.



Atul Chopra, MD, PhD, is an Investigator with the Harrington Discovery Institute at University and Associate Director of the Harrington Rare Disease Program. Describing his work as a medical geneticist and physician-scientist, Dr. Chopra demonstrated how genetic information from just a single patient with a rare disease led to a plethora of scientific discoveries that could potentially benefit so many more. The patient displayed extremely thinness due to an abnormally low appetite. Genetic testing revealed a “truncating” mutation at the end of the FBN1 gene. Dr. Chopra found that this resulted in the lack of a previously unstudied protein. Identifying it in human blood, the research team realized that this missing protein is a hormone and named it asprosin, finding that it primes the liver to produce glucose and the brain to enhance appetite.

[Read more here](#) » (UH Internal Link)



University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center Implants First-in-Human Patient-Specific 3D Printed Tracheal T-tube

Patient’s care team received compassionate use from the FDA

In June 2024, respiratory health specialists at University Hospitals (UH) Cleveland Medical Center placed the first-ever patient-specific 3D printed T-tube into a human patient. The patient had been suffering complications from his commercial grade T-tube. The FDA granted compassionate use for the case.

The FDA has not approved patient-specific 3D printed T-tubes for medical use, but similar patient-specific 3D printed lower airway Y-stents do have FDA approval. A Y-stent is used to relieve obstructions in the lower airways near the lungs when the airway is damaged or diseased. It is used to support the lower airway when other techniques fail. **Benjamin Young, MD**, Medical Director of Bronchoscopy at UH Cleveland Medical Center, and Associate Professor at the School of Medicine, has extensive experience with 3D printed Y-stents.

“We’ve had success using the custom airway Y-stents in several of our patients,” said **Dr. Young**. “When it became apparent Sterling’s T-tube was causing so much trouble for him, we believed a custom device might help if we could make it happen.”

[Read more here](#) »



UHCMC Antimicrobial Stewardship Newsletter

Issue 8 • October-December 2024

Topics in this Newsletter:

- Announcements and Updates
- UH Stewardship at IDWeek 2024
- Antimicrobial Use Data Update
- Antimicrobial Resistance Reporting
- Antimicrobial Stewardship Wins

[View the UHCMC ASP Newsletter](#) »



Kidney Korner Newsletter

The Division of Nephrology and Hypertension publishes a quarterly newsletter called the Kidney Korner. Access the November 2024 edition below.

Highlights from the Kidney Korner Newsletter include honors and awards, publications and research, educations news, faculty and staff updates, clinical program updates and large list of publications since the last newsletter.

[View the Kidney Korner Newsletter](#) »

Awards - Appointments - Publications



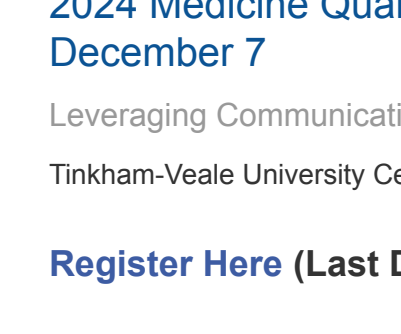
Mona Gupta, MD becomes President of WFSOM

Dr. Gupta becomes President of the Women Faculty of the School of Medicine after serving as president-elect for the past year.

The Women Faculty of the School of Medicine (WFSOM) is an organization of past, current, and future female faculty of the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. Today, thanks in large part to the group’s efforts, females represent nearly 40% of School of Medicine full-time faculty.

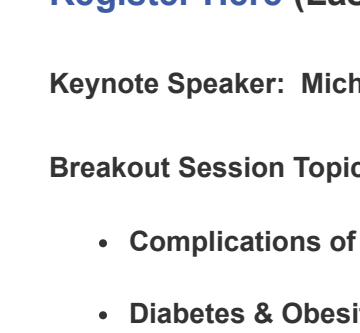
Dr. Gupta, says, “Humbled and inspired by this opportunity to serve an incredible community of talented, compassionate, and visionary women. Together, we’ve built a strong foundation of shared accomplishments, and I’m excited to co-create the next chapter with everyone. She adds, “My vision: Amplify our collective strengths, nurture growth, and empower each of us to thrive. Let’s celebrate our successes, deepen our connections, and imagine an even brighter future—together! Let’s dream, innovate, and achieve as a community!”

[Learn more about the WFSOM vision and steering committee here](#) »



2024 American College of Rheumatology Conference

The Rheumatology division had a great showing at the recent American College of Rheumatology meeting in Washington, DC. The group presented multiple abstracts.



Dr. Marina Magrey was the AS/SpA Topic Editor for RheumNow - covering the 2024 conference in DC and led a group of 3 young faculty reporters also covering SpA at ACR.

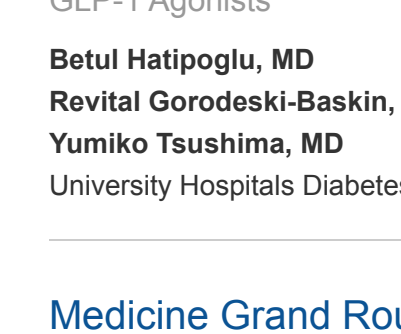
Dr. Magrey also led the axial Spondylarthritis topic panel after the meeting and moderated a session for ASAS/ SPARTAN/ GRAPPA, 3 international organizations involved in research and education of Spondylarthritis and psoriatic arthritis.

Dr. Omer Pamuk had an oral presentation entitled, “Thrombocytopenia in Patients with Systemic Lupus ErythematosusReal-World Data Based on a Nationwide Database, RISE.”

Dr. Haseeb Chaudhary and **Dr. Ansaam Daoud** presented multiple posters. Most of the posters presented were chosen for poster tours by ACR.

Dr. Chaudhary also received the newly established “Emerging Investigator Excellence Award”.

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



Cancer Updates

The Cleveland Browns honored UH Seidman cancer survivors and caregivers during pregame festivities at its Oct. 27 Crucial Catch game. In the inaugural Browns’ bell-ringing, 44-year-old Sean Ayers signaled the conclusion of his cancer treatment under the care of **Benjamin Tomlinson, MD**, for acute promyelocytic leukemia. Sean was accompanied by the family by family members, as well as his infusion nurse, Tracy Kustra, BSN, OCN. Several other survivors participated in the flag presentation and the national anthem.

At the **Society of Hematologic Oncology** conference in Houston, **Koen van Besien, MD, PhD**, had an oral presentation on “Next Questions in Cellular Therapy.” Internal Medicine resident Aditya Elmi, MD, presented a poster on “AML with Extramedullary Relapse after Allogeneic Stem cell transplant Treated Successfully with Decitabine and Venetoclax: A Case Report,” co-authored by Dr. van Besien, Scott Heinemann, PharmD and **Molly Gallogly, MD, PhD**.

Jorge Barata, MD, MSc, FACP, served as the UH Seidman Cancer Center principal investigator for the practice-informative phase 3 trial Tivivo-2, recently published in *Lancet (Impact factor 98.4)*. Several UH patients were enrolled in this trial, which compared tivozanib-nivolumab combination to tivozanib monotherapy in advanced clear cell renal cell carcinoma. Tivozanib monotherapy demonstrated efficacy, particularly in patients progressing directly from immunotherapy and showed no advantage of adding immunotherapy to TKI in patients who have progressed on prior immunotherapy. These data discourages immune checkpoint inhibitor rechallenge in this setting.

Pedro Barata, MD, MSc, FACP, presented the final overall survival analysis of the practice changing phase II PAFMET trial in a paper published in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology (IF 45.3)*. Cabozantinib significantly prolonged progression-free survival and improved objective response rate compared with sunitinib in patients with advanced papillary renal cell carcinoma (PRCC). In this multicenter, randomized phase II, open-label trial, 147 patients with advanced PRCC who have received up to one previous therapy (excluding vascular endothelial growth factor-directed agents) they reported no significant difference in OS across treatment arms.

Education News

Interviewers Needed!

Interviewers are still needed for the Internal Medicine Residency program.

Every year, the Department interviews over 600 candidates for all of the various tracks in the residency program. Faculty availability to help support the interview process is critical. We can’t be successful in this process without you!

Please contact Deena Segal (Deena.Segal@uhhospitals.org) for specific times and dates that are still needed.

Thank you for your continued support!

Welcome

Julia Kaseman, DO
Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine
Case Western Reserve University
Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care & Sleep Medicine

Upcoming Events

2024 Medicine Quality Summit in Honor of Dr. Robert Salata - December 7

Leveraging Communication for Zero Harm

Tinkham-Veale University Center Grand Ballroom - 7:30 am to 12:00 pm

[Register Here \(Last Day!\)](#)

Keynote Speaker: Michael A Rosen, PhD

Breakout Session Topics: (Choice of 2)

- **Complications of Care – DVT and AKI**
- **Diabetes & Obesity**
- **Telemedicine/e–Consultations**
- **Lyme Disease**

Medicine Grand Rounds - December 10

Bereavement Care for the Family System

Allison Remy, MSSA, LISW

The Joanie and Tom Adler Endowed Director of Parent Bereavement Programs
UH MacDonald Women’s Hospital
UH Rainbow Babies & Children’s Hospital
University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center

Medicine Grand Rounds - December 17

GLP-1 Agonists

Betul Hatipoglu, MD
Revital Gorodeski-Baskin, MD
Yumiko Tsushima, MD
University Hospitals Diabetes & Metabolic Center

Medicine Grand Rounds - December 24

Holiday - No Grand Rounds

Medicine Grand Rounds - December 31

Holiday - No Grand Rounds

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

Mackenzie Cater, MD & Bridget Hass, PhD

“Advocacy Through Asylum Medicine: The Case Western Human Rights Initiative”

Daniel Brennan, MD, FACP

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

Jay Krishnan, MD, MPH & Nikki Lutz, MPH, CIC

“From Pathogen to Prevention: Hand Hygiene’s Impact on Patient Safety and Multidrug Resistant Organisms”

Layla Sankari, MD

“Sepsis as an Emergency: How We Can Save Lives from Sepsis”

Social:

[Click here to view online](#)

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

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