Dr. Stephen Thomas, Chief of the Infectious Disease division, recently spoke with News reporters regarding the possibility of Upstate Medical University testing a Heroin vaccine sometime in 2020. The experiment will be ran by the Institute for Global Health and Translational Science. The hopes of this experiment is that the vaccine, among many other tools, will help aid those on the road to, or currently working towards beating their addiction.

Drs. Tucker, Bhatta and Pitroda were recently featured in the Syracuse Women’s Magazine. Please click the link below to access this article!

https://www.syracusewomanmag.com/2019/02/01/special-feature-women-in-cardiology-2/
Dr. Marisa Desimone has been promoted to Clinical Associate Professor

Dr. Joan Mitchell has been promoted to Clinical Associate Professor

Dr. Teresa Gentile has been promoted to Clinical Professor

Dr. Amit Dhamoon was named Chief, Division of General Medicine as of January 1st, 2019. Dr. Dhamoon has served as Associate Program Director for the Internal Medicine Residency Program since 2011 and Vice Chair for Quality, Department of Medicine since August 2013. Dr. Dhamoon is the recipient of many honors and awards. Dr. Dhamoon recently joined University Internists outpatient clinic and will continue on Inpatient services with the Hospitalist Division.

Dr. Ali Khan has been promoted to Associate Medical Director of Hospital Medicine
Dr. Harvir Gambhir and Amit Dhamoon will be partnering as quality officers for the department of medicine. Dr. Gambhir completed his MBBS in Santosh Medical College, in India in 2004. He completed his residency in India in 2008 and worked as an internist for several years before immigrating to the United States. He completed his internal medicine residency training at SUNY Upstate in 2015 and then served as Chief Resident. He works as a Hospitalist and also serves as an Associate Program Director for the Internal Medicine Residency program. During his training at Upstate, Dr. Gambhir has been intimately involved with the quality infrastructure and training with our residency program and department. He has lead quality improvement initiatives in the inpatient and outpatient arena and served as a mentor for our morbidity and mortality conferences for years. We are all very fortunate to have Dr. Gambhir's involvement in quality within our department.

**Dr. Vincent Frechette stepped down as Chief, Division of General Medicine as of December 31, 2018.** Dr. Frechette joined the Department of Medicine, General Medicine Division July 1995. He was the Director of Educational Programs from 2002-2008, and Associate Director of Educational Programs 2008-2010 and in 2007, he became the Division Chief of General Internal Medicine. He has been the recipient of numerous teaching awards during his career. He will continue to work at University Internists outpatient clinic and on Inpatient services with the Hospitalist Division.
Dr. David Lehmann received the Onondaga County Medical Society’s 2018 Award for Physician Service to the Community, at their annual meeting and dinner on November 8, 2018.

Dr. Birendra Sah received recognition from WASOG that the SUNY Upstate Pulmonary Critical Care Clinic is now being recognized as a WASOG Sarcoidosis Clinic.

The 2019 President's Award for Voluntary Faculty Service Deadline for submission is April 1, 2019

Contact Deb Shelby for award guidelines and nomination form
Dr. Sakshi Dutta joined Upstate as a Hospitalist in December of 2018
Dr. Adaora Udekwu joined Upstate as a Hospitalist in January 2019.

**LCME site visit 3/23-27/2019:**
The Liaison Committee on Higher Education (LCME) is scheduled to visit us March 27, 2019. This is a critical step in accreditation of the medical school and Upstate's ability to recruit students, house-staff, and faculty. Many areas related to trainee education will be assessed. Please be aware that self-directed learning is a one important focus. For example, is the student able to independently assess learning needs, credibility of information, and then effectively disseminate what they have learned? In addition, are they able to elicit and are you able to provide productive feedback? At the Department level, we will need to support diversity and inclusion. Unconscious Bias is considered a central issue in these efforts. Overall, we do very well with the medical students. This is reflected by the fact that the Department Of Medicine has won the graduating class’s Clinical Teaching Award for the last 13 of 14 years. So, at a minimum, my recommendation is to spend a little more quality focused time engaging with the student to promote their professional growth and show them how great Internal Medicine can be. I am proud of your work!

_Sriram S. Narsipur, MD, FASN, FACP_
Professor and Interim Chair

The Upstate Cultural/Talent Show was held on February 2nd. Please click on the link below to check out the amazing pictures captured at the event!

[https://jfphotography43.pixieset.com/g/medicinetalentshow/](https://jfphotography43.pixieset.com/g/medicinetalentshow/)
Some amazing photography captured by Dr. Leggat in Namibia, Africa!

Please feel free to share any photographs you’d like to have published in the next Newsletter!
Dr. Shreya Sinha presented her case report “Efficacy and utilization trends of adjuvant chemotherapy for state I, II and III breast cancer in the elderly population: A National Cancer Database (NCDB) analysis” on December 5, 2019 at the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium.


Smulyan H QT Interval: Bazett's Correction Corrected QT Interval; QTc PMID: 30497720


Dr. Sanjay Yadava, Post Malaria Neurological Syndrome: A rare neurological complication of malaria, accepted for publication in infection.

Dr. Sanjay Yadava, Postzone Phenomenon resulting in a false negative Cerebral Spinal Fluid Cryptococcal Antigen Lateral Flow Assay, accepted for publication in ADIS.

Dr. Syed Zaidi, Pulmonary Coccidioidomycosis mimicking Langerhans Cell Histiocytosis resulting in complications, accepted for presentation at ATS 2019.


**Presentations Cont’d**


Presentations Cont’d


Presentations Cont’d


Transplant Program: “As of 12/14/18 our program has performed 110 transplants. 103KI, including 18 LD, and 7 pancreas transplants: 3 PAK and 4 SPK. This is the highest volume of transplants performed since the conception of this program at Upstate.”

Adult Medicine: “Kuhn, Michael. He took the time to explain what can happen to my mother, some of situations that she could get into medically, and he gave me suggestions on possible solutions!”

University Cardiology: “I have been under Dr. Carhart's care for just over two years and have always had excellent experiences with him and all of the staff.” “Experience has always been superb. I have seen numerous electrophysiologists in Syracuse and Rochester since 1962. Dr. Bhatta is outstanding.”

Medicine Subspecialties: “Dr. Kato is one of the most talented, effective and compassionate providers I have in the upstate medical organization. He is on top of all complex issues that come up with a patient as myself and there is complete confidence in care during a health crisis.” “Everyone at this office has always been friendly and attentive. Dr. Yu is amazing and of the three rheumatologists I've had she is my favorite.” “Sheetal Rayancha, MD - Very Professional; Very Understanding; Very Considerate; Incredibly Knowledgeable, and Incredibly Intelligent.”

University Internists: “I have been seeing Dr. Krenzer for almost 30 years and have always been very pleased with her care and her office staff.” “From the moment I entered the waiting area to the time I walked out of the office after my appt. I felt like they really cared about my health and that I was not just another number. Dr. Frechette is very good at what he does.”

Family Medicine: “Dr. Nanavati is the best doctor I ever had, he shows great concern for me and cares about me”
Thank you to all that contributed to the newsletter. If you’d like to have something included in the next newsletter please reach out to myself or Deb Shelby with the information.

Browns2@upstate.edu or ShelbyD@upstate.edu

Congratulations to Jaswinder Virk and Kanica Yashi who welcomed their beautiful baby girl Sargan in January!