The IU Geriatrics Program and the IU Center for Aging Research welcomed three new geriatrics fellows on July 1. They are Firas Barrow, MD, Hema Azad, MD, and Richard Kennedy, MA, JD, MD.

"On behalf of the Division of General Internal Medicine and Geriatrics, I would like to welcome the fellows to our program. We are excited to have them and look forward to working with them for the next year and beyond," stated Glenda Westmoreland, MD, MPH, director of the Geriatric Medicine Fellowship Program at the IU School of Medicine.

Dr. Barrow, PGY 4, completed an internal medicine residency at the IU School of Medicine from 2002-2005. He received a Doctor of Medicine degree in 1999 from the University of Damascus, Damascus, Syria.

Dr. Azad, PGY4, comes to IU from the Internal Medicine Residency Program at Westlake Hospital in Melrose Park, Illinois, where she was chief resident during the past academic year. From 2001-2004, she was a resident in the Resurrection Westlake Internal Medicine Residency Program at Melrose Park. She completed a Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) degree at the Government Medical College, in Surat, Gujarat, India in 1999.

Dr. Kennedy, PGY6, was chief resident during 2004-2005 at the Mount Carmel Family Practice Residency Program, Mount Carmel Medical Center in Columbus, Ohio. He was a family practice resident at Mount Carmel from 2002-2004 and an internal medicine resident and intern at the Ohio State University Medical Center in Columbus from 2000-2002. Dr. Kennedy received a Doctor of Medicine degree from Wright State University School of Medicine in Dayton, Ohio, in 2000.

The new fellows join Padma Chimata, MD, who is in the second year of a three year Geriatric Rheumatology Fellowship. After focusing on geriatrics last year, she turns to a training focus of rheumatology this year in addition to some geriatrics clinical experiences and participation in geriatric didactics.

Michael Weiner, MD, MPH, has been promoted to Associate Professor of Medicine in the School of Medicine effective July 1, 2005. His appointment with tenure was also approved and will be effective July 1, 2006. Mike joined the IU faculty in 1999 and was named a scientist in the Regenstrief Institute and the Center for Aging Research. Congratulations, Mike!

Wanzhu Tu, PhD, has been promoted to Associate Professor of Medicine in the Division of Biostatistics in the School of Medicine. Wanzhu joined the faculty in 1999 and was named a scientist in the Regenstrief Institute and the Center for Aging Research. His appointment with tenure was also approved and will be effective July 1, 2006. Congratulations, Wanzhu!

PI Linda Williams, MD, and Co-PI Teresa Damush, PhD, have received $823,647 in funding from the VA for "Implementing evidence in the detection and treatment of post-stroke depression." This two-site study will evaluate the use of a VA depression screening performance measure together with a patient self management intervention to improve detection and treatment of depression in patients with recent stroke.


Farlow MR. Combination drug therapies for AD: progress is slow, but we must keep trying. Geriatrics. 2005 Jun;60(6):13-4.


PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
Michael Weiner, MD, MPH, attended AcademyHealth’s 2005 Annual Research Meeting held June 26-28, in Boston, Massachusetts. AcademyHealth is the professional home for health services researchers, policy analysts, and practitioners, and a leading, non-partisan resource for the best in health research and policy.

Steve Counsell, MD, attended The Disease Management Colloquium described as "the only executive education course on the role of disease management in Medicare, Medicaid, healthcare cost efficiency, quality and value". The course held June 21-24 was hosted by the Department of Health Policy, Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, PA.

PRESENTATIONS
Chris Callahan, MD, presented "An Internist's Guide to Caring for Older Adults with Mood Disorders" at Medicine Grand Rounds July 13, 2005, held at Wishard Memorial Hospital. During the current academic year, two additional grand rounds will feature speakers focusing on geriatrics topics.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH, will guest on Sound Medicine on the August 7th program. He will discuss dementia screening in primary care and the PREVENT Study. The program airs in Indianapolis on WFYI 90.1 FM at 4:00 PM Sundays. Check the show's website for the radio frequency and air time in your area. Search and listen to past shows in multiple streamed formats in the Sound Medicine Web archives.

The IU Geriatrics Conferences held on Wednesdays, 7:30-8:30am, are on hiatus during the months of July and August and will resume in September.