IU GERIATRICS e-news for APRIL 2006

Indiana Geriatrics Society Seeks Members

IU Geriatrics invites you to become a founding member of the new Indiana Geriatrics Society (IGS), a state affiliate of the American Geriatrics Society (AGS). The purpose of the IGS is to enhance the visibility of geriatric medicine in Indiana, to provide local educational programs in geriatrics, and to provide input to the AGS on policy issues.

An organizational meeting will be held Saturday, June 3, 2006, 1:00 – 2:30 PM, in the Schaeffer Room A & B at St. Vincent Hospital on 86th Street in Indianapolis. To show your interest in helping establish the IGS and/or to register for the organizational meeting, visit the IU Geriatrics website or contact Kathy Frank at 317-630-7007.

Medicine Grand Rounds Features Geriatrics Presentation

Robin Beck, MD, will present “House Calls: Past, Present, Future” at Medicine Grand Rounds on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, in Wishard Hospital’s Myers Auditorium from 8:30 to 9:30am.

Local Network Seeks Solutions to Challenges of Dementia

The Indianapolis Discovery Network for Dementia (IDND) held its inaugural dinner and meeting on February 28, 2006. The goal of the network is to support a collegial environment for interaction among dementia-care experts. Attendees identified potential goals for the group and will continue to exchange ideas about clinical, research, and advocacy issues pertaining to patients with dementia.

The group’s founder is Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH. For information about attending the next IDND meeting, contact Stephanie Munger at 630-7198.

GRANT

A $10 million gift from the Richard M. Fairbanks Foundation Inc. to BioCrossroads will help researchers from the IU Center for Aging Research, Regenstrief Institute Inc., and the IU School of Medicine predict the future health of Hoosiers. Coupled with $500,000 from the Guidant Foundation, the gifts have established the Fairbanks Institute, a research collective that will conduct a long-term predictive health study dedicated to building healthy communities in Indiana and the nation.

In the fall of 2006, the Fairbanks Institute will enroll and continue to follow 1,000 participants to study risk factors that can predict cardiovascular disease. Investigators will collect information on lifestyle behavior, biological data from blood analysis, and long-term health status.

The principal investigator is Douglas K. Miller, MD, Dan Clark, PhD, heads the epidemiology core, Siu Hui, PhD, leads the data integration and statistics core, and Chris Callahan, MD, is the communications director. For more information, read the IU School of Medicine press release.

PUBLICATIONS


PRESENTATIONS
Linda Williams, MD, made two platform presentations, “Treatments for post-stroke depression” and “Self-management of post-stroke depression: Results of the AIM trial,” at the 2006 International Stroke Conference sponsored by the American Stroke Association/American Heart Association, held in Kissimmee, Florida in February. Local co-authors of the AIM trial presentation were Tami Bakas, Ed Brizendine, Wanzhu Tu, Laurie Plue, Hugh Hendrie and Kurt Kroenke.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
Congratulations to J. Eugene Lammers, MD, MPH who has been approved by the Indiana University Board of Trustees for promotion to the rank of Adjunct Clinical Professor of Medicine, Indiana University School of Medicine, effective July 1, 2006.

Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH, attended the international delirium conference, “Delirium: More Attention, Less Confusion” held at the Duke University Medical Center in Durham, NC, April 20-21. The conference focused on critical issues in assessment, phenomenology, prevention, treatment, and understanding of underlying neuropathophysiological and molecular mechanisms, including post-operative delirium in the elderly.

Hugh Hendrie, MB, ChB, DSc, chairs the Critical Evaluation Study Committee, a panel of experts for the trans-NIH initiative, Cognitive and Emotional Health Project: The Healthy Brain. The overall goal of the project is to assess the state of longitudinal and epidemiological research on demographic, social and biologic determinants of cognitive and emotional health in aging adults and the pathways by which cognitive and emotional health may reciprocally influence each other. The committee published a report which is available online in the January 2006 issue of Alzheimer’s and Dementia: The Journal of the Alzheimer’s Association.

Steve Counsell, MD, served as a consultant for The John A. Hartford Foundation and provided an Interim Grant Evaluation and Site Visit to Johns Hopkins University and the project entitled, "Guided Care: Demonstration Project & Diffusion Planning" on April 20, 2006.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Robin Beck, MD, will present "House Calls: Past, Present, Future" at Medicine Grand Rounds on Wednesday, May 17, 2006, in Wishard Hospital's Myers Auditorium from 8:30 to 9:30am.

Hua Gao, MD, PhD, will present “Age-Related Macular Degeneration” at the May 17th IU Geriatrics Conference held in Wishard T2008 A&B from 7:30-8:30am. Dr. Gao is assistant professor of ophthalmology and is director of the Vitreo-Retinal Diseases and Surgery Service. Visit the IU Geriatrics web site for information about the May 31st IU Geriatrics Conference speaker and topic.

Sara A. Blackburn, DSc, RD, will present "Nutrition and the Senior" at the IU Geriatrics Conference held June 7th in Wishard T2008 A&B from 7:30-8:30am. Dr. Blackburn is clinical associate professor in the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences and specializes in adult nutrition.