IU Geriatrics Contributes to American Geriatrics Society’s Mission at Annual Meeting

- improving the health, independence and quality of life of all older people -

The tradition continues. Once again, IU Geriatrics made significant contributions to the American Geriatric Society’s 2009 Annual Scientific Meeting where we provide leadership to healthcare professionals, policy makers and the public by implementing and advocating for programs in patient care, research, professional and public education, and public policy.

Two highlights from the annual meeting include special recognition for our own Indiana Geriatrics Society and a “Best Paper” award.

Counsell Receives Best Paper Award

Steve Counsell, MD was lead author and presented the paper, “Cost Analysis of the Geriatric Resources for Assessment and Care of Elders (GRACE) Care Management Intervention” which received the Best Paper award in Health Services and Policy Research. His co-authors were Chris Callahan, MD, Wanzhu Tu, PhD, Timothy Stump, MA, and Greg Arling, PhD.

In the Health Services and Policy Research Paper Session, Greg Sachs, MD, was co-author with the University of Chicago’s Melissa Fish, MS-II, on “Higher Quality of Care for Hospitalized Frail Older Adults Associated with Improved Survival One Year After Discharge.”

AGS Recognizes IGS for Grassroots Public Policy Efforts

The Indiana Geriatrics Society, received the Council of State Affiliate Representatives (COSAR) Public Policy Grassroots Program Award for their work as a grassroots advocate for Indiana members and for past participation in AGS public policy initiatives. The award also recognized the potential for IGS to further AGS' legislative objectives with federal policy makers, willingness to travel to Washington, DC in to meet with elected officials, and a commitment to maintain contact with members of congressional delegations and staff after hill visits are completed.

IGS President Steven Rappaport, MD, accepted the award on behalf of the society.

Plenary Paper Session

Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH, presented “Enhancing Care for Hospitalized Older Adults with Memory Problems: the e-CHAMP Trial” in the Plenary Paper Session.

Greg Sachs, MD was senior author on “Effects of the Curriculum for the Hospitalized Aging Medical Patient (CHAMP) on Patient Care and Outcomes” presented by David Meltzer, MD, PhD, in the Plenary Paper Session.
Presidential Poster Session

Alexia Torke, MD, MS, and senior author Greg Sachs, MD presented “Hospice and Palliative Care Services for Patients with Dementia: A Survey of Programs” in the Presidential Poster Session.

Posters
Douglas K. Miller, MD presented “Factor Analysis of Resilience Measures in the African American Health Project.”

Steve Counsell, MD presented “Innovative Models of Coordinating Care for Older Australians: Findings of a Packer Policy Fellow.”

Sergey Gorbachev, MD and Michael Weiner, MD, MPH, presented “Patient-focused telecommunications technologies for older adults.”

Michael Weiner, MD, MPH, presented “Primary-care physicians' perspectives about evaluation and treatment of cardiovascular diseases among older adults in New Zealand.”

Michael Weiner, MD, MPH was a co-author on “Incidence of potentially inappropriate medication use among Indiana Medicaid nursing home population with dementia.”

Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH presented “Is long-term use of Anticholinergics a Risk factor for developing MCI and Dementia?”

As a Hartford Geriatrics Health Outcomes Research Scholar, Alexia Torke, MD, MS presented “Hospice and Palliative Care Services for Patient with Dementia: A Survey of Programs” in the AGS/AFAR/Hartford Student Poster Session.
AGS Committees and Special Interest Groups

Board members Greg Sachs, MD and Steve Counsell, MD attended the AGS Board of Directors meeting.

Greg Sachs, MD attended the AGS Ethics Committee meeting, as the AGS Board of Directors liaison.

Steve Counsell, MD attended the AGS Public Policy Committee meeting, as the AGS Board of Directors liaison.

Greg Sachs, MD attended the AGS Audit Committee meeting.

As the Council of State Affiliate Representative (COSAR) for the Indiana Geriatrics Society, Kathy Frank, RN, DNS, attended the COSAR meeting.

Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH chaired and Stephanie Munger, BA, MPH, coordinated a meeting of the Clinical Research In Dementia Special Interest Group.

Steve Counsell, MD chaired the Healthcare for Low-Income Seniors Special Interest Group meeting.

Kathy Frank, RN, DNS was accepted as a member of the AGS Nominating Committee.

Professional Activities

Chris Callahan, MD moderated the Epidemiology Paper Session.

Douglas K. Miller, MD moderated the workshop entitled, “Constructing Quality Indicators for the Care of Older Patients Visiting Emergency Departments (II).” The workshop was developed by the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine’s Geriatric Interest Group.

Representing IU Geriatrics and Dr. Counsell, Chris Callahan, MD attended the John A. Hartford Centers of Excellence Directors Meeting.

Steve Counsell, MD attended the Administrative Directors of Geriatrics Academic Programs business meeting.

Representing the IU Center for Aging Research, Douglas K. Miller, MD attended the AGS/AFAR/Hartford Student Poster Session.
The Indiana Dinner
IU Geriatrics hosted the Indiana Dinner at PF Chang’s for our faculty, fellows, staff and guests attending the AGS Annual Scientific Meeting. This annual event provides an opportunity for IU Geriatrics to network with health care professionals from the state of Indiana and with former geriatrics faculty and fellows who continue to work in the geriatrics field.

Among the guests were Pat Healey, MD, Diane Healey, MD, Youcef Sennour, MD, Raji Majety, MD, John Kelly, Jr, MD, Todd James, MD and Shannon Joyce, MD, Marwan Mustaklem, MD, and Felipe Perez, MD.