Reflecting on 2009

Whether it’s the end of a decade, a year or a clinical rotation, we tend to reflect. As 2009 ends, we share a message that speaks to the principles and passion within IU Geriatrics.

Dear Dr. Bowman,

Coming to the end of the geriatrics rotation, I just wanted to say it was great and we really enjoyed it, particularly the ACE consults.

Geriatrics rotation is one of the best rotations I had as an intern. The interactions with the social worker, pharmacist, physiotherapist, nurse and how they all work for better patient care is so well exemplified in geriatrics. The ACE consult team is a classic example in this regard.

There is so much I learned here, which will be useful for the rest of my residency. I have no doubt saying geriatricians like you do better primary care than most primary care physicians. There is also so much didactics, even research importance on the rotation. The overall knowledge you gain right from dementia, depression to urinary incontinence, how to handle social issues is good. Highly recommend the rotation, in fact, it should be made compulsory for all interns because there are so many things involving teamwork, systems based practice that you learn here that we can further use in residency and life. Thanks a lot!

PGY-1 Resident
Internal Medicine, IUSM
2009

On the day of the e-news photo shoot, personnel working with the ACE Consult Team at Wishard were (l to r) Occupational Therapist Lauren Vessel, Internal Medicine Resident Mohamad Mouchli, RN Case Manager Cathy Gray, Pharmacist Noll Campbell, Geriatrician Ella Bowman, Geriatrics Fellow Sal Moinuddin, and Advanced Nurse Practitioner Mary Beth Lerzak. Personnel who also work with the ACE Team are Social Worker Charles Light, Medical Assistant Jennifer Curry, Physical Therapists Amber Bennett and Cynthia Stevenson, and Geriatricians Robin Beck, Arif Nazir and Glenda Westmoreland.

Scientists Present Work at GSA Annual Meeting

“Creative Approaches to Healthy Aging” brought over 3,500 of the brightest minds in the field of aging to Atlanta, Georgia in November for the 62nd Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America. IU Center for Aging Research scientists and affiliates participated in symposiums and presented paper and posters.

Douglas K. Miller, MD, was an invited discussant at the symposium, Neighborhood Conditions and Older Adults: Understanding How Environments Affect Late-Life Function.

Chris Callahan, MD, presented Reinventing Dementia Care: Homes, Hubs, Centers, and Home Again at the symposium on Enhancing Care to Maximize Healthy Aging for People with Dementia and their Families.

Mary G. Austrom, PhD, was chair of a paper session on Alzheimer Caregiver Issues, and she was the lead author of the presentation Frontotemporal Dementia Caregivers and Researchers: Partnering for Brain Donation.

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**Presentations and Professional Activities**

Indy’s Top Docs® listed Greg Sachs, MD, in the Geriatric Medicine category for 2009. The list is published yearly by Indianapolis Monthly magazine and is compiled by IM’s research partner at Castle Connolly Medical Ltd. Selection is based on recommendations by peers and leading physicians nationwide. The 2009 list represents the top 5 percent of board-certified physicians in the Indianapolis metropolitan area.

Dr. Sachs was quoted in “Doctors Spending More Time Now with Their Patients” which appeared on websites of US News & World Report, Forbes and other media outlets on November 9. He was also quoted in “End of Life Talk Isn’t Easy but It’s Critical,” an article that appeared in the November 12, 2009 edition of the Indianapolis Star.

As the member of an NIA Special Emphasis Panel, Douglas K. Miller, MD, evaluated contract proposals for Recruitment and Screening for the Insight into the Determination of Exceptional Aging and Longevity (IDEAL) Study.

Ella Bowman, MD, PhD, gave a formal presentation at the November meeting of the Indiana Chapter of the Case Management Society of America. A group of about 50 attendees learned about Wishard’s House Calls for Seniors Program and how this model of care impacts homebound elderly adults in our community.

**Publications**


**Student Geriatrics Interest Group Hosts Holiday Party**

On December 5, the Student Geriatrics Interest Group (SGIG), led by Stephanie Nothelle, MS3, hosted a holiday party for residents of North Capital Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

Party-goers enjoyed the company of over a half dozen medical students who baked cookies, played guitar, and sang Christmas carols.

**GSA Annual Meeting**

These scientists co-authored papers presented at GSA:

- Greg Arling, PhD - Fiscal Impact of a Statewide Program to Transition Residents from Nursing Home to Community; Preliminary Findings from Minnesota’s Nursing Home Performance-Based Incentive Payment Program; poster Minnesota’s Nursing Home Performance-Based Incentive Payment Program: An Innovative Model to Promote Care Quality;
- Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH and Greg Arling, PhD - Development of a Fall Risk Quality Indicator for Nursing Home Residents with Dementia.
- Frederick W. Unverzagt, PhD - Subjective Memory as a Mediator of the Association Between Age and Memory Function: Results from the ACTIVE Study; and Regional Disparities in Incident Cognitive Decline: the Regards Study.

**For Your Calendar**

Richard Kovacs, MD, will present “Anti-Coagulation in Older Adults with Atrial Fibrillation,” at the IU Geriatrics Conference from 8:30-9:30am on January 6, 2010 in Wishard T2008 A&B. Dr. Kovacs is professor of clinical medicine in the Division of Cardiology, IUSM.