Program Newsletter Highlights National Focus on Models of Care

For more than a decade, IU Geriatrics clinicians and researchers, and their partners in primary care and hospital medicine, have collaborated to develop and test new models of healthcare delivery for seniors throughout the continuum of care.

The spring 2010 issue of the newsletter, IU GERIATRICS, provides a brief summary and peer-reviewed references for each of five new models.

As director of IU Geriatrics, Steve Counsell, MD, notes that “the national debate on healthcare reform has brought significant attention to geriatric care issues. The next decade promises to be especially gratifying as new models of care are more broadly implemented toward better healthcare and outcomes in older Americans.”

The newsletter also cites how IU Geriatrics, as a geriatric medicine program model of care, interacts with our academic urban public health system to define the local domain of geriatric medicine.

Readers meet the 25 IU Geriatrics faculty members who contribute their clinical, education and research expertise to create and sustain the local domain.


Dr. Lammers Honored with Leadership Award and Named to Medical Directorship

The month of April brought recognition and new responsibilities to J. Eugene Lammers, MD, MPH. He was honored as the recipient of a Clarian President’s Values Leadership Award and was named medical director of palliative care at Methodist Hospital.

Developed in 2001 and based on nominations by colleagues, the annual Leadership Award acknowledges staff and affiliated physicians who integrated Clarian’s values into their work lives and have shown exceptional dedication to Clarian’s mission.

The April 5 issue of The Clarian newsletter noted that Dr. Lammers is known for his commitment to total care of his patients. No matter what he is assisting his patients with, he engages them with integrity, compassion and skill. His “Would you recommend?” scores are consistently above the 90th percentile.

Dr. Lammers is a geriatrician, adjunct clinical professor of medicine at IU Geriatrics, medical director of Clarian’s Senior Health Center and is active in medical staff leadership. He served as president of Clarian’s medical staff in 2009.

Dr. Lammers has served on the Methodist Hospital Ethics Committee and the Ethics Consultation Team and is a senior affiliate faculty of the Charles Warren Fairbanks Center for Medical Ethics.

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Dr. Eugene Lammers

Representing the values of his profession with quiet dignity, Dr. Lammers is respected by his peers. His commitment to quality and patient safety is expressed through his calm, yet effective, leadership of physician and quality activities.

Now in his 18th year at Methodist, Dr. Lammers has over 10 years of experience in hospice and palliative care. Continuing to improve the quality of palliative care is a strategic priority for him as he assumes new duties as medical director of palliative care at Methodist Hospital.

“Patients and their families want a voice in their care and palliative care is at the very heart of patient-centered care,” notes Dr. Lammers.
Presentations and Professional Activities

Arif Nazir, MD, presented “Beauty Lies in the Eyes of the Beholder: What Constitutes Quality Care in Nursing Homes?” on April 14, 2010 at the Summit to Enhance the Care of Older Adults with Cognitive Impairment within the Extended Care Facility presented by Community Hospitals Indianapolis.

Teresa Damush, PhD and Daniel Clark, PhD attended the 31st Annual Meeting & Scientific Session of the Society of Behavioral Medicine held in April in Seattle, Washington. Dr. Damush presented “Stroke Self-Management: Outcomes of a Randomized Controlled Trial” in a paper session. Linda Williams, MD, was a co-author.

Douglas K. Miller, MD, FACP and Greg A. Sachs, MD, FACP have been named Fellows of the American College of Physicians. Fellowship is a mark of distinction and represents recognition by one’s peers for personal integrity, superior competence in internal medicine, professional accomplishment, and demonstrated scholarship. Michael Sha, MD, FACP, governor of the Indiana chapter of the ACP, announced the recognition in the March 2010 issue of the Governor’s Newsletter.

A large contingent of IU and VA investigators participated in the International Stroke Conference 2010 and State of the Art Stroke Nursing Symposium 2010 held in February in San Antonio, Texas. Among the scientists who presented at symposiums and authored/co-authored posters were IU-CAR Scientists Teresa Damush, PhD, Gregory Arling, PhD, and Wanzhu Tu, PhD. IU-CAR Affiliated Scientists presenting or authoring were Tamilyn Bakas, DNS, RN, Arlene Schmid, PhD, OTR, Linda Williams, MD, Barbara Habermann, PhD, RN and Susan M. McLennon, PhD, RN.

Publications


Save the Dates for Geriatrics Presentations

Lyle Fettig, MD, will present “Dealing with Difficult Families” at the June 2 IU Geriatrics Conference held from 7:30-8:30am in Wishard T2008 A&B. Dr. Fettig is a palliative care physician at Wishard Hospital and the IU School of Medicine.

IUSM Distinguished Professor Bernardino Ghetti, MD, invites you to visit the website of the 7th International Conference on Frontotemporal Dementias to be held October 5-8, 2010, in Indianapolis, Indiana. The website is located at http://www.ftd2010.org/.