

SECTION OF GERIATRICS AND PALLIATIVE MEDICINE

SECTION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Section faculty are the primary contributors to the Geriatrics programs at Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center (BSLMC) and Houston Methodist Hospital. These contributions produced the national rankings in Geriatrics at both institutions. The 2020-2021 designation and national rank (#47) was the first national ranking for BSLMC.
- Dr. Eberechi Nwogu-Onyemkpa was selected as a Center of Excellence in Health Equity, Training and Research Junior Faculty Scholar for 2020-2021. Building from the scholar award, Dr. Onyemkpa was also accepted into the Program to Increase Diversity among Individuals Engaged in Health-Related Research Summer Institute at NHLBI 2021. These achievements build a foundation for her scholarship in health equity and palliative medicine.
- The Southeast Texas Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program guided the designation of five Baylor Medicine clinics and BSLMC Senior Care as Age Friendly Health Systems.
- Dr. Leanne Jackson was recognized as the highest volume telehealth video visits clinician among all 125 VA Medical Centers in the nation for Palliative Medicine (first among 453 providers in 2020). Dr. Aimee Garcia continues her pioneering efforts developing and growing the largest telehealth program for wound medicine in the national Veterans Health Administration.
- In 2020, the section initiated a new Palliative Medicine program at BSLMC with the recruitment of two new palliative medicine board-certified physicians. The Palliative Medicine program at Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center (MEDVAMC) successfully entered its two fellowship positions into a distinct option within the national Match in 2020.
- In October 2020, the section conducted a virtual CME program in Geriatrics for hospitalists and primary care providers, with an impressive national and international reach.



SECTION CHIEF

Anand D. Naik, MD

FACULTY

Section Leadership

- Anand Naik, MD, Section Chief
- Sara Battar, MD, MPH, Chief, Geriatrics and Extended Care Line, MEDVAMC
- Ursula Braun, MD, MPH, MEDVAM AC Site Director, Palliative and Supportive Medicine Fellowship, MD Anderson Cancer Center
- Angela Catic, MD, Geriatrics Fellowship Director
- Rashmi Jaitly, MD, Medical Director, Houston Methodist Hospital Wound Care
- Julia Reysner, MD, Medical Director, Harris Health System, Vallbona Health Center

- George Taffet, M.D, Chief Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine program at Harris Health
- Susan Williams, MD, Medical Director, BSLMC Kirby Glen Senior Care Clinic

Faculty

Professor

- Aanand D. Naik, MD
- Robert Roush, EdD, MPH
- Taffet George, MD

Associate Professor

- Ursula K. Braun, MD, MPH
- Aimee Dinorah Garcia, MD
- Syed Nasrat Imam, MD
- Sara Battar, MD, MPH

Assistant Professor

- Kathryn Agarwal, MD
- Mariam Ahmed, MD
- Tolulope Awolaja, MSN, BSN
- Jordan Boynton, MSN, APRN, FNP-C
- Elizabeth Brierre, RN, MSN, ANP-C
- Angela Catic, MD, MEd
- Alexie Cintron, MD, MPH
- Allison Dobecka, RN, MSN, ANP-C
- Astrid Grouls, MD

- Janet Harlan, MSN, BSN, GNP-BC
- Leanne Jackson, MD
- Rashmi Jaitly, MD, MBBS
- Delma Jara, MD
- Kimberly Johnson, MSN, ANP-BC
- Kristina Little, MD
- Anita Major, MD
- Ana Catalina Marcias, MD
- Eberechi Nwogu-Onyemkpa, MD, MHS
- Shannon Pearce, PhD, MSN
- Julia Reyser, MD
- Joel Salazar, MD
- Geraldine Salmeron, MD
- Sarah Selleck, MD
- Sana Shamji-Mukhi, DO
- Glencora Sharfman, MD
- Mahveen Sohail, MD
- Susan Williams, MD

Instructor

- Stacy Yang, PA

HONORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Ursula Braun, MD, MPH

- Ethics Committee Member / American Geriatrics Society

Angela Catic, MD, MEd

- Certificate of Recognition for contributions to the BCM Physician Assistant program in extraordinary circumstances and for the support and dedication to the education of PA students
- Online Module – Catic A. Camp K. Taylor K. Crompton M. Ross S. HSC Health: Creating Age-Friendly Health Systems. [Online course] University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth, INCEDO

Leanne Jackson, MD

- BCM Early Career Faculty Award for Excellence in Patient Care

- 2020 Top Doctor (Hospice and Palliative Medicine), *Houstonia Magazine*
- Highest number of telehealth video visits performed among all 125 VA Medical Centers in the nation for palliative medicine (first among 453 providers in 2020)

Anita Majors, MD

- House Call Service recognized as a Patient Centered Medical Home by the National Committee for Quality Assurance for 2nd consecutive year

Aanand Naik, MD

- Led the Age Friendly Health System Designation for five primary care clinics at Baylor Medicine and the BSLMC Senior Care clinic
- Plenary invited Speaker for the Oklahoma Dementia Care Network's Innovations in Aging Day
- Annual Meeting Planning Committee / American Geriatrics Society
- Senior Advisor / National VA Quality Scholars Program Coordinating Center
- Editorial Board Member, *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*

Eberechi Nwogu-Onyemkpa, MD, MHS

- Selected as a Center of Excellence in Health Equity, Training and Research Junior Faculty Scholar for 2020-2021
- Selected into the Program to Increase Diversity Among Individuals Engaged in Health-Related Research Summer Institute at NHLBI 2021

George Taffet, MD

- Clinician Educator award at Houston Methodist Hospital. \$100,000 POCUS Course Development, Role Mentor
- Associate Editor, *Journal of Gerontology*
- 2020 *Houstonia* and Castle Connelly Lists of Best Doctors

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Grants

Aanand Naik, MD

- John A. Hartford Foundation / National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA); Supporting Age-Friendly Health Systems: Implementing and disseminating person-driven outcome measures Source; \$130,000
- NIA Collaboratory U54; Patient Priorities Care for Hispanics with Dementia; \$40,000
- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) / Univ New Mexico; ECHO National Nursing Home COVID-19 Action Network; \$360,000
- Veterans Administration, HSR&D; Effect of Patient Priorities Care Implementation in Older Veterans with Multiple Morbid Conditions; \$1.2 million

George Taffet, MD

- NIH; Phase 3 randomized, double-blind placebo-controlled trial to evaluate the efficacy and safety of LY3819253 in preventing SARS-COV-2 infection and COVID-19 in skilled nursing and assisted living facility residents and staff; \$31,937
- NHLBI; MPI GlyNAC supplemented diet improves inflammatory-based fibrosis in the aging heart; \$100,000

Publications

- *Academic Medicine* (IF **5.354**): 2
- *Age and Ageing* (IF **4.511**): 3
- *BMJ Quality and Safety* (IF **7.226**): 1
- *Cardiovascular Research* (IF **8.168**): 1
- *Cell Stem Cell Journal* (IF **20.860**): 1
- *Diabetes Care* (IF **16.02**): 1
- *Geroscience* (IF **7.77**): 1
- *JAMA Internal Medicine* (IF **21.873**): 1
- *JAMA Network Open* (IF **8.483**): 2
- *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society* (IF **5.562**): 6
- *Journal of the American Heart Association* (IF **5.501**): 2
- *Journal of the American Medical Association* (IF **56.272**): 2
- *Journal of the American Medical Directors Association* (IF **5.325**): 2
- *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism* (IF **5.605**): 1
- *Journal of General Internal Medicine* (IF **5.128**): 1
- *Journal of Hepatology* (IF **17.425**): 1
- *Medical Education* (IF **6.251**): 1
- *Science Report Journal* (IF **4.379**): 1

Books and Book Chapters

Angela Catic, MD, MEd

- Optimizing cognitive and physical function in older adults. In: *Primary Care Medicine: Office Evaluation and Management of the Adult Patient*

Aanand Naik, MD

- Assessing Older Patients' Risk Factors of Being Financially Exploited. In: *Aging and Money*

Robert Roush, EdD, MPH

- Assessing Older Patients' Risk Factors of Being Financially Exploited. In: *Aging and Money*

CENTERS

Southeast Texas Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program

The **SETx-GWEP** is a federally funded U01 training program collaborating with health professions, schools and facilities across southeast Texas. It is one of two GWEP programs in Texas and among a select number of federal U01-funded programs supported by the Health Resources & Services Administration. The Baylor College of Medicine Section of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine leads a regional consortium that includes partnerships with University of Texas Houston, University of Houston, Texas Southern University, BakerRipley Senior Services, the Montrose Center, Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center and several other area healthcare systems. The grant creates the foundation for a geriatrics training and education center with outreach across southeast Texas. The SETx-GWEP was established in July 2019 with funding until June 2024.