

A photograph of the Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center building at dusk. The building is a modern, multi-story structure with a glass facade that reflects the sky and surrounding environment. The name "Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center" is visible on the upper left side of the building. A dark blue rectangular box is positioned in the upper right corner of the image, containing the text "Baylor College of Medicine".

Baylor
College of
Medicine

Baylor St. Luke's
Medical Center

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

The Margaret M. and Albert B. Alkek
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE
ACADEMIC ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Baylor College of Medicine

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

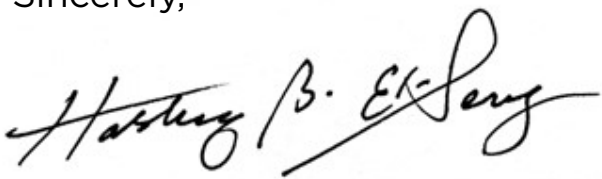
Dear Colleagues:

It is my pleasure to present to you the Department of Medicine's annual report for the year 2022. I am proud to say that we have achieved many significant milestones in the past year.

In the past year, we have made strategic investments in research, clinical care programs, medical education and training. These investments have allowed us to expand our capabilities and improve our offerings, which has resulted in a stronger competitive position for our patients, trainees and workers.

Looking ahead, we are optimistic about the future and are confident in our ability to continue delivering value to our patients and shareholders. We remain committed to innovation, integrity and excellence in our business practices and we are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Hashem B. El-Serag". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Hashem" and last name "El-Serag" being the most prominent parts.

Hashem B. El-Serag, M.D., M.P.H.



Hashem B. El-Serag
M.D., M.P.H.

2022 ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

CHAIR

Hashem B. El-Serag, M.D., M.P.H.

OFFICE OF THE CHAIR

Vice Chair for Clinical Affairs

Vice Chair for Education

Vice Chair for Faculty and Staff Development

Vice Chair for Harris Health System/Ben Taub Hospital

Vice Chair for Quality Improvement and Innovation

Vice Chair for Research

Vice Chair for Veterans Affairs

Mandeep Bajaj, M.B.B.S.

Richard J. Hamill, M.D.

Sandra Haudek, Ph.D.

Hemant Roy, M.D.

Kyler Godwin, Ph.D.

Rolando Rumbaut, M.D., Ph.D.

Biykem Bozkurt, M.D., Ph.D.

SECTIONS

Cardiology

Cardiovascular Research

Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism

Epidemiology and Population Sciences

Gastroenterology and Hepatology

General Internal Medicine

Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine

Health Services Research

Hematology and Oncology

Immunology, Allergy, and Rheumatology

Infectious Diseases

Nephrology

Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine

Transition Medicine

Chief of Section

Christie Ballantyne, M.D.

Christie Ballantyne, M.D.

Mark Herman, M.D.

Christopher Amos, Ph.D.

Fasiha Kanwal, M.D., M.S.H.S.

Joslyn Fisher, M.D., M.P.H.

Aimee Garcia, M.D.

Laura Petersen, M.D., M.P.H., F.A.C.P.

Martha Mims, M.D.

Rashmi Maganti, M.D.

Thomas Giordano, M.D., M.P.H.

Wolfgang Winkelmayer, M.D., Sc.D.

Ivan Rosas, M.D.

Cynthia Peacock, M.D.

The Department of Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine is the professional home to over 1,800 professionals distributed across 14 sections. We have campus sites at Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center, the McNair Campus, Michael E DeBakey VA Medical Center, Harris Health System, Texas Children's Hospital, and the Pavilion for Women. We also have strong associations with numerous centers, programs, and organized research units. Our team is thrilled to celebrate our departmental achievements in research, patient care, and medical education and training.

THE DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

RESEARCH

In 2022, the research efforts of our department faculty were supported by \$120.3M in total extramural research funding including:

- \$77.2M from the NIH
- \$8.5M from the Veteran's Administration
- \$12.2M from other federal agencies
- \$17.7M from state and other non-federal sources
- \$4.7M from industry support

Two of our sections have NIH T32 grants to support research training in the fields of gastroenterology and infectious diseases.

CLINICAL CARE

Our physicians practice in Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center, the McNair Campus, Ben Taub Hospital, Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center and Houston Methodist Hospital. Many specialty and subspecialty services provided at these locations are nationally recognized as sites of premier clinical quality.

Patients receive state-of-the-art consultations, diagnoses and compassionate care from our world-renowned clinical staff. Our doctors specialize in diagnosing and treating various diseases ranging from heart disease, diabetes and allergies to breast cancer and cystic fibrosis. Teens with developmental disabilities transitioning into adult care receive personalized, quality care and social services through our unique Transition Medicine group.

EDUCATION

The Department of Medicine's education efforts train the next generation of leaders in medicine through medical school, graduate medical training, fellowships and internships. The Department of Medicine provides undergraduate medical education (UME) students a balance of training, exposure, and experience, which prepares them for graduate programs. Our faculty teaches two-thirds of the UME courses. Students first attend foundational sciences curriculum courses and then their clinical curriculum courses. Students choose one sub-internship, seven core clerkships and five or six clinical electives.

Students within the Internal Medicine sub-internship develop skills required for their internship. During these rotations, medical students experience increased autonomy, acting as interns supervised directly by senior residents and the attending physician. Students hone in on their history and physical skills, write orders and independently develop diagnostic and therapeutic plans. They expand their medical knowledge by using experiential and self-directed learning.

Our residencies are authorized by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education and its respective Residency Review Committees. We enroll highly competitive applicants each year and continue to match outstanding residents. Our graduates become leaders in Internal Medicine and its specialties, both academically and in clinical practice.

Beyond residency training, the Department of Medicine offers fellowships for two to four years of training in each major subspecialty, such as gastroenterology, cardiovascular disease, etc. This experience allows physicians to learn unique concepts, information and procedures for a particular subspecialty, with an opportunity to research if desired. Our department has more than 220 residents and more than 150 fellows.

Affiliations with leading research and healthcare institutions in the Texas Medical Center provide access to diverse people and resources. Our students and trainees can access numerous patients during these clerkships in various settings through our affiliation with eight leading healthcare institutions—all located in the world's largest medical center.

SECTION OF GERIATRICS AND PALLIATIVE MEDICINE

Welcome to the Section of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine in the Department of Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine. Our faculty includes a wide range of health professionals who practice in various care settings in a highly interprofessional culture. Our faculty comprises of subspecialists in palliative medicine, wound care, post-acute and long-term care, hospital medicine, home-based medical care, ambulatory consultation and primary care geriatrics. The Section provides compassionate primary or consultative care to older adults, from robust to frail. Our team of physicians, nurse practitioners, social workers and pharmacists see patients across several healthcare systems, including Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center (BSLMC) and Kirby Glen Senior Care, Ben Taub Hospital and the Harris Health System, the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center and its Community Living Center, Houston Methodist Hospital and Saint Dominic Village. Our section focuses on maintaining robust and vibrant aging for independent adults living in the community, acute care for those facing and recovering from illnesses and exacerbations of chronic conditions, along with supportive care for our most frail and vulnerable adults including those at the end of life.

The annual report outlines some of the achievements and recognitions received in the 2022 academic year.



SECTION CHIEF
Aimee D. Garcia, M.D.,
C.W.S., F.A.C.C.W.S.

SECTION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The section faculty are the primary contributors to the Geriatrics programs at Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center and the Houston Methodist Hospital. These contributions produced the national rankings in Geriatrics at both institutions. The Houston Methodist Hospital was ranked #23 and the Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center was ranked #43 according to the *U.S. News and World Report*.
- Dr. Leanne Jackson was recognized for the second year in a row as the highest volume telehealth video visits clinicians among all 125 VA Medical Centers nationwide for Palliative Medicine.
- The Telewound Care Program had the country's highest number of telewound visits. The three VA wound care physicians-Dr. Delma Jara, Dr. Ana Catalina Macias, and Dr. Aimee Garcia were recognized as being in the top five performing physicians for telewound in the country.
- In 2022, the section welcomed Dr. Ahsan Rizvi, board certified in both Geriatric Medicine and Palliative Care, to expand the program to include outpatient Palliative Care. Dr. Luz Verma was also recruited to provide care to patients in the inpatient Geriatrics service at Ben Taub and BSLMC.
- The section conducted its 2nd annual virtual CME program in Geriatrics for hospitalists and primary care providers with an impressive national and international reach.
- The outpatient Geriatric Medicine Clinic moved from Kirby Glen to the McNair campus. We continue to provide outstanding clinical care to our Geriatric patients.
- The Harris Health House Calls Program continues to earn recognition as a patient-centered medical home.

FACULTY

Section Leadership

- Aimee Garcia, M.D., Interim Section Chief
 - Sara Battar, M.D., M.P.H., Chief, Geriatrics and Extended Care Line, MEDVAMC
 - Ursula Braun, M.D., M.P.H., MEDVAMAC Site Director, Palliative and Supportive Medicine Fellowship, MDACC
 - Angela Catic, M.D., Geriatrics Fellowship Director
 - Rashmi, Jaitly, M.D., Medical Director, Houston Methodist Hospital Wound Care
 - Julia Reyser, M.D., Medical Director, Harris Health System, Vallbona Health Clinic
 - Ahsan Mujtaba Rizvi, M.B.B.S., Medical Director, Palliative Medicine, BSLMC
 - George Taffet, M.D., Chief, Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine Program at Harris Health
 - Susan Williams, M.D., Medical Director, Baylor Senior Care Clinic
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FACULTY

Professor

- Robert Roush, Ed.D., M.P.H.
- George Taffet, M.D., F.A.C.C.P.

Associate Professor

- Sara Battar, M.D., M.P.H.
- Ursula K. Braun, M.D., M.P.H.
- Aimee Dinorah Garcia, M.D., C.W.S., F.A.C.C.W.S.
- Syed Nasrat Imam, M.D.
- Anita Major, M.D.

Assistant Professor

- Kathryn Agarwal, M.D.
- Tolulope Awolaja, M.S.N., B.S.N
- Elizabeth Brierre, R.N., M.S.N, A.N.P.-C.
- Angela Catic, M.D., M.Ed.
- Alexie Cintron, M.D., M.P.H
- Allison Dobecka, R.N., M.S.N, A.N.P.-C.
- Astrid Grouls, M.D.
- Janet Harlan, M.S.N, B.S.N, G.N.P.-B.C.

- Leanne Jackson, M.D.
- Rashmi Jaitly, M.D.
- Delma Jara, M.D.
- Kimberly Johnson, M.S.N, A.N.P.-B.C.
- Kristina Little, M.D.
- Ana Catalina Marcias, M.D.
- Eberechi Nwogu-Onyemkpa, M.D., M.H.S
- Tziona Regev, L.C.S.W.
- Julia Reyser, M.D.
- Ahsan Mujtaba Rizvi, M.B.B.S., F.A.C.C.P.
- Joel Salazar, M.D.
- Geraldine Salmeron, M.D.
- Sarah Selleck, M.D.
- Sana Shamji-Mukhi, D.O.
- Glencora Sharfman, M.D.
- Susan Williams, M.D.

Instructor

- Stacy Yang, P.A.
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HONORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Angela Catic, M.D., M.Ed.

- Recipient, Norton Rose Fulbright Faculty Excellence Award for Educational Leadership
- Full Associate Member, UTHealth Consortium on Aging
- Member, Association of Directors of Geriatrics Academic Programs Board of Directors

Aimee D. Garcia, M.D., C.W.S., F.A.C.C.W.S.

- Member, National Pressure Advisory Panel
- Chair, Public Policy, National Pressure Injury Advisory Panel
- Invited Lecturer, American Geriatrics Society Annual Meeting, Orlando, Florida, May 12-14, 2022, Topic: *Challenges associated with management of chronic venous ulcers in older adults*
- Invited Lecturer, National Pressure Injury Advisory Panel 2022 Meeting Tampa, Florida, March 17-19, 2022, Topic: *Re-ulceration in Scar Tissues*

Astrid Grouls, M.D.

- Women's Cohort Participant, Baylor College of Medicine Career Advancement Series-Assistant Professor
- MD Anderson Supportive and Palliative Care Clinical and Research Symposium Planning Committee Member
- Grouls, A. and Donaho, E. "I Need my Machine" – Shared Management of a Patient with LVAD across Two Palliative Care Teams. Oral Presentation at the 2022 AAHPM Conference, converted to virtual due to COVID
- Grouls, A. and Childress, A. Utilizing Narrative Analysis in a Case of Prolonged ECMO Use for COVID. Oral Presentation at the 2022 AAHPM Conference, converted to virtual due to COVID
- Tenorio, A., Grouls, A., Nwogu-Onyemkpa, E. Palliative Care Involvement for COVID-19 Patients Requiring ECMO. Oral Presentation at the 24th Supportive Care & Palliative Care Clinical and Research Symposium
- Grouls, A. Social Media Legacy: Model to Discuss Social Media End-of-Life Wishes. Oral Presentation at the 24th Supportive Care & Palliative Care Clinical and Research Symposium

Anita Major, M.D.

- Promoted to Associate Professor of Medicine

Eberechi Nwogu-Onyemkpa, M.D., M.H.S.

- Participant, Increase Diversity Among Individuals Engaged in Health-Related Research (PRIDE) Program
- Participant, Summer Institute in Functional and Translational Genomics of Blood Disorders Program
- Palliative Care Involvement for COVID-19 Patients Requiring ECMO. Anna Tenorio, Astrid Grouls, Eberechi Nwogu-Onyemkpa. Oral presentation. MD Anderson Supportive and Palliative Care Clinical and Research Symposium, September 24, 2021.
- Conference Session Panelist, CHEST 2021. *You Have to Trust Us: The Palliative Care Experience for BIPOC Communities During the COVID-19 Pandemic*. R. Matthew, E. Nwogu-Onyemkpa, D. McCamey.
- Invited speaker, Advances in Critical Care Conference Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Heart Institute, Houston, TX, October 14, 2021, Topic: *Family Engagement: Optimal Use of Palliative Care*
- Invited speaker, Atrium Health Levine Cancer Institute Translational Science Seminar Charlotte, NC, January 25, 2022, Topic: *The Case for Early Palliative Care in Adults with Sickle Cell Disease*

Robert Roush, Ed.D, M.P.H.

- Recognized for 50 years of service by the Department of Medicine
- Invited Speaker, Texas Adult Protective Services Annual Meeting, Austin, TX

George Taffet, M.D., F.A.C.P.

- Vice Chair of Education, Department of Medicine, Houston Methodist Hospital
- Chairman, Policy Committee, Gerontological Society of America
- Co-Chairman, Geroscience Committee, Gerontological Society of America
- Associate Editor, Journal of Gerontology
- Presenter, National Institute of Health, Joint Symposium to Office of Dietary Supplements and Resilience Network

Ursula Braun, M.D., M.P.H.

- Ethics Committee Member, American Geriatrics Society
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RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Grants

Aimee D. Garcia, M.D., C.W.S., F.A.C.C.W.S.

- VA Polytrauma grant for support of second year wound care fellow. Total Funding: \$94,517 for support of the position.

Eberechi Nwogu-Onyemkpa, M.D., M.H.S.

- *Early Palliative Care Use in Adult Patients with Sickle Cell Disease* Source: NIH/NHLBI Subaward of Grant 5R25HL106365-12 Total Funding: \$11,000

George Taffet, M.D., F.A.C.P.

- Office of Dietary Supplements, \$100,000

Publications (13)

- Aging Physiology, Up to Date: **1**
 - American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Care: **1**
 - American Journal of Physiology-Heart Circulatory Physiology: **1**
 - Educational and Developmental Psychologist: **1**
 - British Medical Journal: **1**
 - Journal of Atherosclerosis: **1**
 - Journal of Cardiovascular Aging: **1**
 - Journal of the American College of Cardiology: **1**
 - Journal of the American Geriatrics Society: **1**
 - Journal of the American Medical Directors Association: **1**
 - Journal of the American Medical Association: **2**
 - Journal of Gerontology A: Biological Sciences and Medical Sciences: **1**
 - Journal of Pain and Symptom Management: **1**
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