

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MEDICINE

NEWSLETTER

MARCH - JUNE 2023 ISSUE 3



Family and Community Medicine wrapped up FY2022–2023 with significant departmental transitions and several occasions bringing faculty, trainees, and staff together. In March, 11 medical students matched with our Baylor Family Medicine Residency Program, including a second group on the Lufkin track. We celebrated the graduating class of 2023 in June, with eight residents who started the residency program during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic. I appreciate our team of faculty and staff who powered through the pandemic's challenges to support our educational mission.

My appreciation extends to **Susan Nash, Ph.D., M.A.**, whose contributions and work with our fellows have been integral to the department's research initiatives. We wish Dr. Nash all the best in retirement. Furthermore on faculty updates, congratulations are in order for the promotions of **Kenneth Barning, M.D.** and **Kiara Spooner, DrPH, MPH, CHES** to associate professors. Our department also gained faculty in our community health programs, in addition to new hires within the FCM administration, private clinics, and community-based contracts.

In-person gatherings have increased due to the relaxation of COVID-19 restrictions. Many participated in the 2023 Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM) Annual Spring Conference, Baylor College of Medicine Faculty Awards, and FCM Awards Reception, plus local outreach. Moreover, special celebrations and appreciation events held in the spring were appropriately attended.

I cannot compliment everyone enough for a job well done this fiscal year. As our work family continues to grow, our trust in teamwork enables us to meet the healthcare needs of our community. I look forward to FY2023–2024, ushering in my 10TH year with the department.

Roger Zoorob, M.D., MPH, FFAFP
Richard M. Kleberg, Sr. Professor & Chair



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BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

INTEGRATED PRIMARY CARE CLINIC (I-CARE) FREE CLINICAL SERVICES AT SANTA MARIA HOSTEL

Family and Community Medicine is utilizing a two-year \$1.2 million grant from Harris County to implement an integrated primary care clinic, referred to as the I-Care Clinic, at the Santa Maria Hostel's Bonita House campus. The clinic will offer free family medicine, addiction medicine, psychiatry services, behavioral counseling, and peer recovery support to individuals receiving care at Santa Maria Hostel, the largest substance use disorder treatment center for women in Texas. The FCM team involved includes **Roger Zoorob, M.D., MPH, FAAFP** as the medical director, with **Alicia Kowalchuk, D.O., FASAM**, **David Lundy-Weiss, M.D., MPH, M.A.**, **Maria Mejia, M.D., MPH, FACPM, FASAM**, **Yasmeen Quadri, M.D.**, and family medicine third-year residents providing clinical services, as well as **Rhyon Baker**, senior research operations associate, facilitating administrative support. Baylor College of Medicine's addiction psychiatry fellows will also participate in the appropriate services. This project reappropriates the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, which addresses public health problems exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The clinic's soft opening starts in July.

INSIGHT SBIRT ENHANCEMENT IMPLEMENTATION AND PROGRAM EVALUATION

The InSight SBIRT Enhancement project launched in October 2022 and has been steadily progressing. InSight is the alcohol and substance use screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment (SBIRT) program for Harris Health, providing SBIRT services to hospitalized and emergency center patients at Ben Taub Hospital since 2004. This new project is a partnership with long-time collaborator **Mary M. Velasquez, Ph.D.** from The University of Texas at Austin and her team at the Health Behavior Research and Training Institute in the Steve Hicks School of Social Work, through a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) statewide-funded SBIRT implementation initiative. Our department's InSight team is led by **Dr. Kowalchuk**, the InSight medical director since 2008, and includes **Teresa Rivers, LMSW**, senior medical social worker, and **Amy Isidahomen**, research coordinator. Teresa provides enhanced referral to treatment and follow-up services to patients post-hospital discharge, filling a needed service gap of the InSight program. Amy reports monthly data and facilitates communication with UT Austin and the other SBIRT implementation sites.

AWARE-HOUSTON MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS TRAINING

Sandra J. Gonzalez, MSSW, Ph.D., principal investigator and project director, and **Mónica Alzate, Ph.D., LCSW, M.A.**, co-investigator and director of training, successfully completed three years of providing mental health awareness training in Greater Houston, supported by a SAMHSA grant. By the end of the project period this spring, a total of 2,212 participants received training on a range of topics such as common mental health concerns, adverse childhood experiences, domestic violence with a focus on intimate partner violence, natural disasters, and self-care practices including mindfulness. Additionally, specific target audiences received training on motivational interviewing and substance use prevention. Attendees of these trainings consisted of medical professionals, first responders, college students, medical residents, school counselors, behavioral health providers, probation officers, and the general public.



RESIDENCY

BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE NORTHWEST PROGRAM (HOUSTON)

On Match Day, our Baylor Family Medicine Residency Program welcomed 11 incoming PGY-1 residents for FY2023-2024!



ADESEWA ADEWUSI, D.O.
PHILADELPHIA COOM



TARA EVERETT, M.D.
BCM



JUSTINA JOSE, M.D.
UTMB



HUDA KHAN, M.D.
BCM



SALLY KHOURY, M.D.
AUB



KATHERINE LY, D.O.
WUHSCOM-PACIFIC



ADAM MENDONCA, M.D.
UTHSC-HOUSTON



SANDY SAMAAAN, M.D.
UTMB

BCM ST. LUKE'S HEALTH EAST-TEXAS PROGRAM (LUFKIN)

Three new interns comprise the second group on our rural residency track for Lufkin, Texas, serving communities in East Texas.



CHRISTINE ABRAHAM, MBBS
RMC OF PRAVARA



JONATHAN LUU, M.D.
UTHSC-SAN ANTONIO



KYLE SWARTZ, M.D.
UT-SOUTHWESTERN

Baylor College of Medicine's partnership with St. Luke's Health-Memorial Lufkin aims to support unique training experiences while providing primary care services in urban and rural settings.



RESIDENCY

GRADUATING RESIDENTS CLASS OF 2023

We commend this year's graduating class of family medicine residents for persevering during a time of uncertainty and adapting to the many changes in healthcare. Our FY2022–2023 PGY-3 residents began their training in 2020 with obstacles caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. We appreciate their unwavering dedication to learning and wish them well in their physician careers.



TANVIR AHMED, M.D.



CHRISTINA BABU, M.D.



CHINWE EZENNA, D.O.



CHELSEA MENDONCA, M.D.



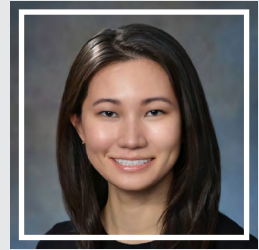
NADIR MULLA, M.D.



TAM NGUYEN, D.O.



CHAD SCOTT, M.D.



YOUXIN XIONG, M.D.





RESIDENCY

FAMILY OF FAMILY MEDICINE AN ERA OF FAMILIARITY

In our "family of family medicine," we have familial connections among past and current residents. Adam Mendonca, M.D. and Justina Jose, M.D., FY2023–2024 PGY-1 residents, each have a sister who matched into our residency program in prior years. Their siblings are delighted to encourage them during their training.



"When I found out my brother Adam had matched to BCM for residency, I was ecstatic that he was going to get to join this family that had welcomed me three years ago and helped me grow into the physician I am today. I am so excited to join the faculty and get to be a part of his journey. I know this program will help him thrive and support him just as it has done for me." – **Chelsea Mendonca, M.D.**, FY2022–2023 PGY-3 resident



"I was so excited and honored that my sister matched into such a prestigious program as Baylor Family Medicine Residency. As a current resident, I know how well-rounded and thorough the residency training is, and I am grateful that my sister will have the opportunity to grow as a physician serving patients in Houston. My sister and I were raised here in Houston, and we both look forward to positively impacting our hometown community." – **Janina Jose, D.O.**, FY2022–2023 PGY-2 resident

Youxin Xiong, M.D., FY2022–2023 PGY-3 resident and recent Baylor Family Medicine Residency graduate, also shares a special match. Dr. Xiong's mother, Mei Zhang, M.D., is an alum of our residency program as well.



KUDOS

FACULTY PERFORMANCE AWARDS, HONOR, AND RECOGNITION

2023 BCM Power of Professionalism (POP) Award
Mike Ren, M.D.

2023 BCM Women of Excellence Award
Mónica Alzate, Ph.D., LCSW, M.A.
Diana Blicharski, M.D.
Lisa Danek, M.D., MBA
Nihita Shah, M.D., MPH

**Spring 2023 FCM Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
Champion Award**
Diana Blicharski, M.D.

**March 2023 Alpha Omega Alpha
Honor Society Inductee**
Malvika Juneja, M.D.

**February 2023 BCM Professional Educator
Appreciation and Recognition (PEAR) Award**
Samuel Randall, M.D.

Q4 FY2022-2023 Faculty Feedback Awards
Daniel D'Souza, M.D. (*Volunteer Faculty*)
Melissa Johnson, FNP-C, M.S.

Q3 FY2022-2023 Faculty Feedback Awards
Ramin Bajoghli, M.D. (*Volunteer Faculty*)
Samuel Randall, M.D.
Mike Ren, M.D.

Q2 FY2022-2023 Faculty Feedback Awards
John Kirkwood, D.O. (*Volunteer Faculty*)
David Lundy-Weiss, M.D.
Arindam Sarkar, M.D.

**Gold Remi Award from the 56TH Annual World-
Fest-Houston International Film Festival**
For Shorts - Animated (Classic Cel Animation):
"The Person at the Center"
Fabrizia Faustinella, M.D., Ph.D., FACP

FACULTY PROMOTIONS ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS (NON-TENURED)



KENNETH BARNING, M.D.
Medical Director, Harris Health
System's Same-Day Clinics and
Associate Director, FCM Clerkship

**KIARA SPOONER,
DRPH, MPH, CHES**
Research Faculty

FCM FACULTY AWARDS FY2022-2023

Congratulations to the following recipients:

Outstanding Educator

Kamna Bansal, M.D.
David Lundy-Weiss, M.D., MPH, M.A.
Nidhi Mehrotra, MBBS
Shruti Varadarajan, M.D., FAAFP

Outstanding Clinician

Sanda Khin, MBBS
Mike Ren, M.D.
Usha Surapaneni, MBBS

Outstanding Researcher

Susan Nash, Ph.D., M.A.

Outstanding Service

Patrick McColloster, M.D.
Nihita Shah, M.D., MPH

Chair's Recognition Award

Sandra J. Gonzalez, MSSW, Ph.D.



KUDOS

We proudly congratulate several Family and Community Medicine faculty members who received well-deserved recognition at Baylor College of Medicine's Faculty Awards Day ceremony held in May, for their significant contributions to patient care, service, and education.

BCM FACULTY AWARDS FY2022-2023

**Master Clinician Faculty Award
for Excellence in Patient Care**
Yasmeen Quadri, M.D.

Clark Faculty Service Award
Maria Mejia, M.D., MPH, FACPM, FASAM

John P. McGovern Outstanding Teacher Award
Anjali Aggarwal, M.D., FAAFP

**Norton Rose Fulbright Faculty Excellence
Award for Educational Leadership**
Anjali Aggarwal, M.D., FAAFP

**Star Faculty Award for
Excellence in Patient Care**
Aymer Al-Mutairi, M.D., M.S.
Sanjana Bhattarai, M.D., FAAFP
Indumathi Kuncharapu, M.D.
Preethi Nambi, M.D.
Noreen Pirzada, M.D.
Amna Waqar, M.D.

**Early Career Faculty Award
for Excellence in Patient Care**
Arindam Sarkar, M.D.





KUDOS

RESIDENTS RECOGNITION

AWARD, APPOINTMENTS, AND HONOR

2023–2025 Texas Academy of Family Physicians (TAFP) Foundation Resident Scholars Program, Texas Family Medicine Scholar
Dorcas Omari, MBChB

FY2023–2024 Chief Resident Appointees

Briana Jarrett, M.D.

Ayodele Gabriel Ogunmola, M.D.

March 2023 Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society Inductee

Christina Babu, M.D.



BAYLOR FAMILY MEDICINE - KIRBY CLINIC STAFF RECOGNITION

Nouri Alkassab
Alejandra Arechiga
James Espitia
Kormeakar Freeman
Kimberly Jaimes
Dina Melendez
Rhonda Patterson
Jasmin Romo
Paula Rosales
Amanda Ruiz Cabrera
Flor Serna Lopez

Tonya Artis
(Patient Access)

Cynthia Barton
(Patient Business Services)

Chelsie Hernandez
(Patient Business Services)

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT INAUGURAL PROGRAM

Selected for the Physician Leadership Development Institute (PLDI) program with Harris Health System, supported by the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE):
Maria Mejia, M.D., MPH, FACPM, FASAM

BCM FACULTY SENATE FCM REPRESENTATION

Electoral Unit Senators

Malvika Juneja, M.D., FAAFP

Crystal Nwagwu, M.D. *(Second Term)*

Rashmi Rode, M.D., FAAFP *(Second Term)*

At-Large Senators

Sanda Khin, MBBS *(First-Time Elected)*

Eric Lee, M.D. *(First-Time Elected)*

Hammad Mahmood, M.D. *(First-Time Elected)*

Employee of the Quarter

Srivani Kambala





KUDOS

BCM WORK ANNIVERSARIES SIGNIFICANT YEARS OF SERVICE

Family and Community Medicine celebrates the faculty members who have reached career milestones with Baylor College of Medicine in FY2022-2023. Ranging from 20 to 35 years, these individuals have demonstrated their commitment to providing patient care in Harris County. We thank you all for your service!

35



DIANA BLICHARSKI, M.D.

30



PATRICK MCCOLLOSTER, M.D.

25



PHONG LUU, M.D.

20



B JOY BLUMENREICH, M.D.

20



LISA DANEK, M.D., MBA

20



MINAL PATEL, MBCHB, MPH



NEWSMAKERS

FACULTY CONTRIBUTIONS IN BLOGS AND NEWS WEBSITES

Family and Community Medicine providers have given their expert recommendations and knowledge to inform the public with safety tips and preventative measures for staying healthy:

Alicia Kowalchuk, D.O., FASAM, associate professor and physician:

- [Here's why parents should have Narcan, the drug that reverses an opioid overdose, at home: 'This is a lifesaving medication'](#). Yahoo! and AOL. 2023 May 23

Maria Mejia, M.D., MPH, FACPM, FASAM, associate professor and physician:

- [This summer, could you spot the signs of heat illness?](#) HealthDay. 2023 June 17
- [Austin heat grows dangerous](#). Axios Austin. 2023 June 15
- [Dangerous heat targets Houston this week](#). Axios Houston. 2023 June 13
- [Recognizing the stages of heat illness](#). Baylor College of Medicine News. 2023 June 8

Mike Ren, M.D., assistant professor and physician:

- [Drink up! How much water do you really need to stay hydrated?](#) Baylor College of Medicine's Momentum Blog. 2023 June 27
- [Why you keep getting strep throat](#). Lifehacker. 2023 June 7
- [Medical check-up and emergency kit: We explain how you should prepare before traveling](#). Univision Houston. 2023 June 2
- [Traveling? Here's your family medical checklist](#). HealthDay. 2023 May 27
- [How to create your family's medical travel checklist](#). Baylor College of Medicine News. 2023 May 18

Luis Rustveld, Ph.D., R.D., L.D., assistant professor and registered dietitian:

- [The truth about fried food](#). Baylor College of Medicine's Momentum Blog. 2023 April 25

FEATURED STUDIES IN WEB ARTICLES

Manuscripts with authorship by FCM faculty have been summarized further and published online to make available for all readers. The research studies mentioned on the Newswise, HealthDay, and FAU websites examined serious trends affecting families in the United States:

- [U.S. infant mortality declined, but low birth weight, preterm births increased](#). Newswise. 2023 June 29
- [Suicide rates for 13- and 14-year-olds doubled from 2008 to 2018](#). HealthDay. 2023 May 12
- [Alarming rates of teen suicide continue to increase in the U.S.](#) FAU. 2023 April 26

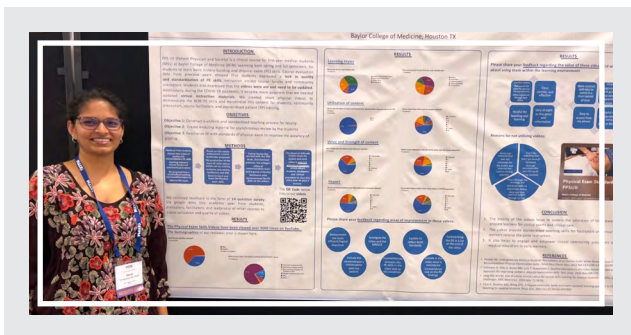
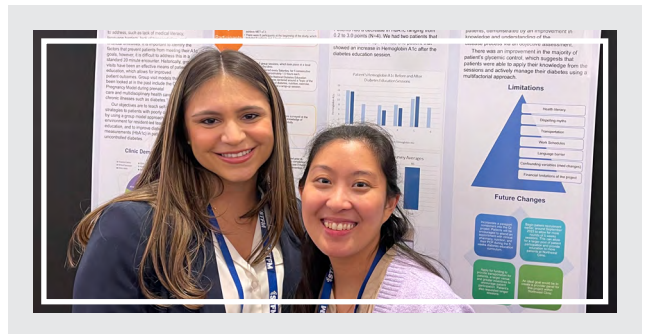
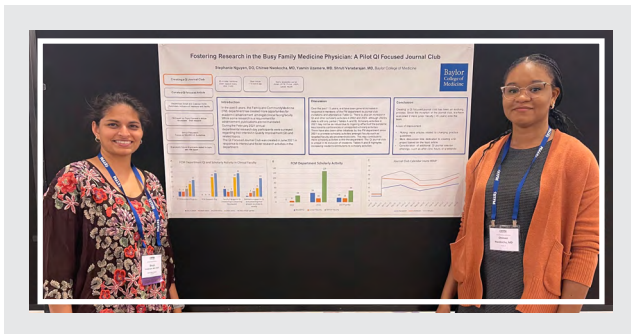
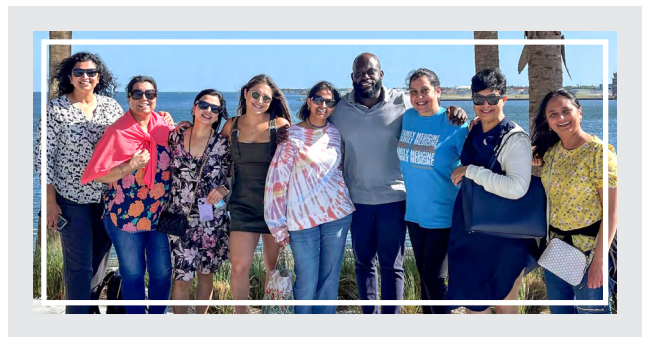


HAPPENINGS

2023 STFM ANNUAL SPRING CONFERENCE

APRIL 29 - MAY 3, 2023

Family and Community Medicine faculty gathered in Tampa, Florida for the 2023 Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM) Annual Spring Conference. Family medicine residents also contributed to the authorship of posters with our faculty members and attended the educational event. A listing of each presentation submitted to the conference is on [page 20](#).

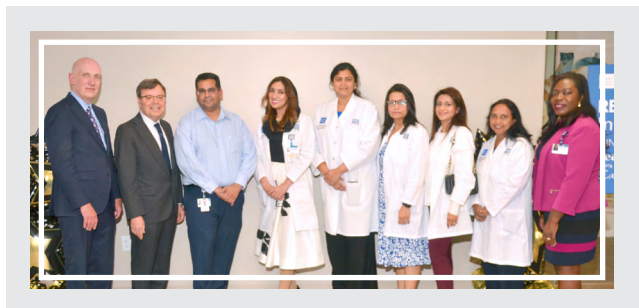




HAPPENINGS

FCM AWARDS RECEPTION FOR 2020-2023 RECIPIENTS

The department honored Family and Community Medicine recipients of various faculty awards from Baylor College of Medicine within the last three years. Malvika Juneja, M.D. and the FCM administration team coordinated the successful recognition event. Leadership was in attendance, including Roger Zoorob, M.D., MPH, FAAFP, Richard M. Kleberg, Sr. professor and chair of our department, James McDeavitt, M.D., executive vice president and dean of clinical affairs at the College, and Jennifer Small, AuD, MBA, CCC-A, executive vice president and administrator of Ambulatory Care Services at Harris Health System.





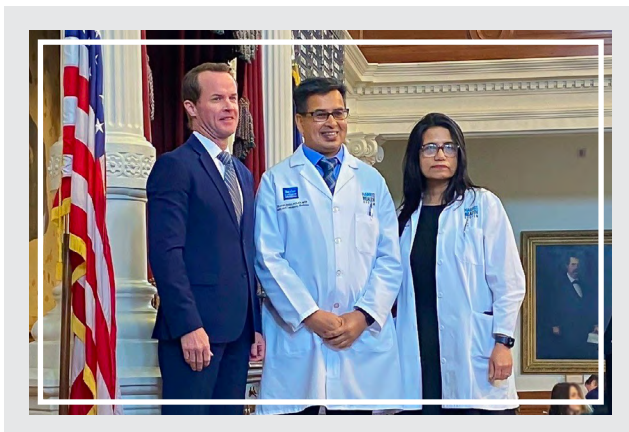
HAPPENINGS

FACULTY ACTIVITIES

VARIOUS WORKS

In the spring, **Mónica Alzate, Ph.D., LCSW, M.A.** contributed to presentations for Family and Community Medicine faculty development. Dr. Alzate led the discussion, "From clinical practice to scholarship, advocacy, and ethics," during a seminar for faculty and fellows. She also co-presented, "Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) - What PCP teams can do in busy clinics," for the Practice Improvement Series. In addition, she volunteered for the eight-week, twelve-hour Peaceful Planet Foundation's Healthy Together Intensive, partnering with leaders from Houston's Third Ward to promote healthy lifestyles focused on nutrition, physical activity, and stress reduction.

This year, **Fabrizia Faustinella, M.D., Ph.D., FACP** has been diligently advocating for changes in Texas healthcare. As co-chair of the Texas Chapter of the American College of Physicians (TX-ACP) Health and Public Policy Committee (HPPC), Dr. Faustinella participated in several tasks for the 88th Texas Legislature, such as deciding to support or oppose proposed healthcare-related bills, meeting with political representatives in Austin, Texas, and reviewing resolutions for the TX-ACP Board of Directors. Additionally, she authored the resolution, "Healthcare-sponsored Voter Engagement as a Health Equity Strategy." Dr. Faustinella is delighted that the legislative session passed House Bill 12, which extends postpartum coverage from two to twelve months for mothers on Medicaid. This law is a big win for Texas mothers and babies, helping to improve maternal mortality rates.



Bharat Joshi, M.D., FAAFP and **Sanjana Bhattarai, M.D., FAAFP** each received the opportunity to serve as "Physician of the Day" for the Texas State Legislature at the Texas State Capitol. Furthermore, Dr. Joshi was part of the team that attended the National Conference of Constituency Leaders (NCCL) meeting in Kansas City, Missouri held in May, for which he represented Texas. **Jessica Garcia, D.O., FAAFP, FAAHPM** was in attendance as well.



HAPPENINGS

COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIRS, UNIVERSITY EVENTS, AND SCREENINGS

From March to June, Family and Community Medicine faculty, staff, and fellows participated in outreach activities. We continually seek opportunities to bring our clinical mission to Greater Houston and surrounding areas. In the community, our teams provide preventative care and informational resources.

Zelma's Healing Arts and Wellness Resource Fair

Judith Gutierrez, M.D.
Jacqueline Hirth, Ph.D., MPH
Tiffany Ostovar-Kermani, M.D., MPH

Second Annual Mocha Man Style Men's Health Fair & Expo

Eber Lopez, MBA

Prairie View A&M University's First Annual Women in Stem Summit

Jonnae Atkinson, M.D., M.S., FAAFP
Co-sponsored by our FCM DEI Committee
and the Mary Susan Moore Medical Society

Inaugural TSU Research and Innovation Week 2023 Community Education, Outreach, and Research Engagement Expo

Tracy Fletcher-Davies, BSN, MSML, RN
Eber Lopez, MBA

Black Family Wellness Expo

Afroze Ali, M.D.
Jonnae Atkinson, M.D., M.S., FAAFP
Sanjana Bhattarai, M.D., FAAFP
Eber Lopez, MBA
Carol Manning, DNP, APRN, FNP
Jennifer Okoh, MBBS, MPH, FAAFP
Christina Okusanya, DNP
Elisa Rivera-Hayes, MPA-S
April Walker, M.A., LPC, NCTTP

Health Screenings for Acción Social Venezuela

Maria Mejia, M.D., MPH, FACPM, FASAM





HAPPENINGS

COMMUNITY EVENTS OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

We appreciate the individuals who have devoted time to additional activities representing Family and Community Medicine on various occasions. In the spring, many volunteered for Baylor College of Medicine initiatives. Moreover, clinical and research staff participated in departmental marketing endeavors.



LUNG FORCE Walk-Houston

Tracy Fletcher-Davies, BSN, MSML, RN
Wendy Hammerman, RN, MSCS
Adriana Rangel, MPH, RRT, CTTS

Santa Maria Hostel with BCM

Fara Julienne Abordaje
Rhyon Baker
B Joy Blumenreich, M.D.
Linda Tran Dinh
Aleshia Dumas-Burkhalter
Connie Dupler, MHA/MBA
Tracy Fletcher-Davies, BSN, MSML
Eber Lopez, MBA
Lisa Lopez
Melissa McCauley, CRA
Kiara Olmeda, M.S.
Juanita Salinas, M.A.
Garry Smith



2023 Bike MS: Texas MS 150 Opening Ceremonies

Eber Lopez, MBA

2023 Walk MS: Houston – BCM Team Participant

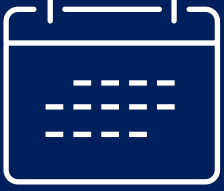
Adriana Rangel, MPH, RRT, CTTS

2023 Rodeo Acts of Kindness with BCM

Lisa Lopez
Rhonda Patterson

2023 Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo Booth

Tracy Fletcher-Davies, BSN, MSML
Eber Lopez, MBA
Adriana Rangel, MPH, RRT, CTTS
Joanna Rodriguez



HAPPENINGS

FACULTY AND STAFF GATHERINGS SPECIAL OCCASIONS AND APPRECIATION





STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Kiara Olmeda, M.S., research coordinator, is a dedicated member of the research team led by Larissa Grigoryan, M.D., Ph.D., MPH, MSc. Kiara recently celebrated first authorship of the manuscript, "[Prevalence and predictors of using antibiotics without a prescription in a pediatric population in the United States](#)," published in the peer-reviewed journal, *Antibiotics*. In nearly three years with Family and Community Medicine, she has consistently progressed in her career path and continues to thrive in research.

Kiara's experience at Baylor College of Medicine began in November 2020, working part-time

with our department while enrolled to obtain the Transformed Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Biomedical Sciences and Health Equity from the Center of Excellence in Health Equity, Training and Research. She transitioned to her current full-time position in July 2022. This year, Kiara became an active member of the FCM Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee. She immediately got involved with DEI initiatives, including putting together a photo gallery on the department's website in observance of Celebrate Diversity Month.

Kiara's work ethic and team-player mentality have empowered her to shine on stage as well. She had been a competitive and professional dancer for many years, classically trained with an interest in all dance styles. After work hours, she enjoys taking dance classes offered by Houston's culturally diverse scene.

Additionally, Kiara likes running, reading, and watching movies to unwind. Staying in touch with friends and family regularly also keeps her balanced. She is the only person from her household in Houston and the rest reside in



Florida. Kiara misses her childhood dog, Kody, who is blissfully living in retirement with her parents in "The Sunshine State."

"My favorite aspect of my job is the people. I love my research team, composed of brilliant and motivated scientists who are passionate about the work we do and care deeply about the patients we serve. I am lucky to have found a team I can learn from and sincerely supports my personal growth and professional development."



WELCOME TO FCM

**RAELISHIA BRANTLEY**

Patient Affairs Specialist, Healthcare for the Homeless - Houston

AT BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE: Raelishia hopes to serve the community and assist in providing quality healthcare to people experiencing homelessness.

**DANIELLE HASSAY**

Front Desk Specialist, Healthcare for the Homeless - Houston

AT BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE: Danielle hopes to be a helping hand and spread kindness to the patients.

**ALYSSA MILIAN**

Case Worker, Healthcare for the Homeless - Houston

AT BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE: Alyssa hopes to impact the community and build relationships with partners that can assist with bettering the community.

**JIHONG ANITA TIAN, FNP, M.S.**

Instructor, Strawberry Health Center

AT BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE: Anita hopes to learn and grow with colleagues to improve the health of the patients we care for.



NEELAM ALI, MHA/MBA is a senior coordinator, business operations (HR) with the FCM administration team. Previously, she was an executive coordinator in the Office of Education Affairs at Baylor College of Medicine. Aside from work, she enjoys spending time traveling and being with family and friends. Currently, she is planning her upcoming wedding in September. In her new role, Neelam hopes to combine her interests in human resources plus project management and expand her skills as well as experience in those areas.

OSCAR LEMUS is a dental assistant with Healthcare for the Homeless - Houston. Prior to joining us, Oscar worked for Summit Dental Center. Outside of work, he spends time with his son.

**CONNIE DUPLER, MHA/MBA**

Senior Practice Manager, Baylor Family Medicine - River Oaks

MONIQUE BOGAN
Medical Assistant, Baylor Family Medicine - Kirby

BRITTANY DUDLEY
Front Desk Specialist, Healthcare for the Homeless - Houston

PHOENIX MILLSAP
Medical Assistant, Baylor Family Medicine - Kirby

ELBORZ SAFARZADEH, DMD
Instructor (Dentist), Healthcare for the Homeless - Houston



PUBLICATIONS

Dongarwar D, Ajewole V, Spooner KK, Tran V, Adebuseyi T, Onyenaka C, Bakare O, Emeh C, Baines K, Boua D, Mossi Y, Egbejimi A, Ibrahim S, Olaleye O, Salihu HM. [Racial and ethnic disparities in stillbirth among pregnant women with obesity](#). *Am J Perinatol*. 2023 Jun 26. Epub ahead of print

Ayllon HPD, Levine RS, Hennekens CH, Wood SK. [Temporal trends in United States infants: Implications for achieving health equity](#). *Ann Pediatr Child Health*. 2023 June 10;11(2):1304

Hirth JM, Gonzalez SJ, Zoorob R. [The Social Context: Social and behavioral factors that affect health outcomes](#). *Primary Care: Clinics in Office Practice*. 2023 June 9. In press

Ren M. [Top Step 2 FAQs: Everything you need to know before the exam](#). Blueprint Med School Blog. 2023 May 25

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Dongarwar D, Lee M, Manikkuttiyil C, Salihu HM. [Association between social determinants of health issues and maternal obesity among American racial/ethnic groups](#). *Int J MCH AIDS*. 2023;12(1):e570. Epub 2023 Apr 18

Ren M. [How to communicate in medical consultations: A case study](#). Rosh Review Blog. 2023 March 31

Mendonca CE, Andreae DA. [Food Allergy](#). *Prim Care*. 2023 Jun;50(2):205-220. Epub 2023 Mar 27

Ren M. [Tips for communicating with patients during residency](#). Rosh Review Blog. 2023 March 24

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PRESENTATIONS

2023 SOCIETY OF TEACHERS OF FAMILY MEDICINE (STFM) ANNUAL SPRING CONFERENCE

April 29 - May 3, 2023

Shah N, Rode R. Diabetic Foot Exam: Prioritizing patient's perspective.

Mendonca C, Rode R, Paul S, Varadarajan S. Standardizing care of women in reproductive age.

Mendonca C, Nwagwu C, Rode R, Babu C, Jose J, Diez-Barroso R, Ogunmola A, Uddin M. Standardizing cervical dysplasia management.

Tomlinson M, Rane S, Rosiji F, Martinek K, Dillawn P, Rode R, Aggarwal A. Getting Adolescents Into Nutrition (GAIN): A pilot study for children's nutrition education.

Bui R, Juneja M, McCurry V. Assessing the efficacy of a skill-building workshop for medical students aimed at building medicolegal competencies.

Juneja M, Mahmood H. EHR embedded telemedicine: Moving from stopgap to sustainable care in the post COVID-19-waiver environment.

Gonzalez A, Porter W, Juneja M. Assessing the relationships between social environmental factors and implicit bias among clinical medical students.

Babu C, Jose J, De la Guarda S, Nguyen S, Franco A. Families Against Diabetes: Group visits to educate diabetic patients and their families.

Rode R, Shah N, Danek L. Reformatting procedure competency assessment tool to provide structured and effective feedback to individual learners.

Juneja M, Varadarajan S. Using the AAMC Stand-Point Survey to inform programs for faculty morale, retention and recruitment.

Nambi P, Ali A, Pirzada N, Bansal K, Mujahid A. Improving asthma outcomes with physician-initiated calls during COVID-19 surge-related clinic closure.

Varadarajan S, Goldstein S, Rianon N, Adkison J, Juneja M. Partnerships in QI Curriculum Development: A QI roadmap for residents and faculty.

Huang WY, Zhou Y, Atkinson J, Barning K, Keen M, Purkiss J. Family medicine clerkship directors' remediation of faculty with mistreatment concerns: A CERA survey.

Aggarwal A, Sidani M, Rode R, Danek L, Nwagwu C, Mendonca C, Ogunmola A, De la Guarda S, Zoorob R. Simulation Ultrasounds in Obstetrics: Case-based clinical learning skills to enhance competence in obstetric ultrasounds.

Juneja M, Kowalchuk A, Zoorob R, Bui R. Using concept maps as a teaching and learning tool for wide content curricula in medical education.

Varadarajan S, Bansal K. Implementation of a new H&P rubric: Turning a checklist into a meaningful patient's story for early preclinical learners.

Bansal K, Varadarajan S, Rode R, Sulapas I, Juneja M. Integrating short physical exam videos in medical student education to teach physical exam skills.

Nguyen S, Nwokocha C, Uzamere Y, Varadarajan S. Fostering research in the busy family medicine physician: A pilot QI focused journal club.

Juneja M, Mahmood H, Rode R, Babu C, Warwick E, Khan F, Zoorob R. Building a career and leadership development track using resident feedback.



PRESENTATIONS

2023 ACADEMYHEALTH ANNUAL RESEARCH MEETING (ARM)

June 24-27, 2023

Gutierrez J, Ostovar-Kermani T, Hirth J, Zoorob R. Biomarkers of cardiovascular damage in e-cigarette smokers.

Laytner L, Zoorob R, Grigoryan L. Identifying the symptoms and illnesses that predispose outpatients toward expectations of antibiotics in two healthcare systems.

Ostovar-Kermani T, Schaper K, Grigoryan L, Hirth J, Zoorob R, Kowalchuk A. Confidence, knowledge, and intention to implement screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment of substance use disorders in primary care settings.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MEDICINE (FCM) GRAND ROUNDS

June 12, 2023

Nguyen QD, Waqar A. Breast Cancer Screening: Imaging tools, identifying high risk patients, and ordering exams.

SOCIETY FOR PREVENTION RESEARCH (SPR) 31ST ANNUAL MEETING

May 30 - June 2, 2023

Santa Maria D, Padhye N, Lightfoot M, Paul M, Quadri Y, Nyamathi A. Universal experiences of discrimination, victimization, and healthcare utilization among youth experiencing homelessness.

THE ALLIANCE SIXTH ANNUAL REFUGEE MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS CONFERENCE

May 31, 2023

Joshi B. Care for immigrants and refugees with chronic medical conditions - PCP perspective.

Bhattarai S. Preventive health care for refugee populations.

HARRIS HEALTH/BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE RESEARCH DAY

May 30, 2023

Ostovar-Kermani T, Schaper K, Grigoryan L, Hirth J, Zoorob R, Kowalchuk A. Confidence, knowledge, and intention may function as unique barriers for the routine implementation of screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment of substance use disorders in primary care settings.



PRESENTATIONS

SIXTH ANNUAL 2023 REGIONAL FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENCY RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM (RFMRRS)

May 20, 2023

Jose J, Babu C, De la Guarda S, Nguyen S, Franco A. Families Against Diabetes: Group visits to educate diabetic patients and their families.

Mendonca C, Martin B, Ghanayem R, Holmes W, Mulla N, Varadarajan S, Warwick E, Rode R, Ren M. Improving resident knowledge and application of medical billing. *Featured Oral Presentation

Nguyen T, Rahman S, Shakhawat R, Martin B, Davlapur J, Ezenna C, Ahmed T, Rode R. Improving access to dermatologic care at Northwest Health Center through effective e-consult utilization and optimization.

Ogunmola A, Mendonca C, Rode R, Jose J, Uddin M, Babu C, Nwagwu C, Diez-Barroso R. Standardizing management of cervical dysplasia.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MEDICINE (FCM) ONLINE LECTURE

May 17, 2023

Zoorob R. Lung cancer screening and prevention in primary care: Updated guidelines and best practices.

SOCIETY OF GENERAL INTERNAL MEDICINE (SGIM) 2023 ANNUAL MEETING

May 10-13, 2023

Gutierrez J, Hirth JM, Zoorob R. Association of high sensitivity C-reactive protein levels with electronic cigarette use compared to traditional cigarette, dual users, and non-smokers among US adults.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MEDICINE (FCM) GRAND ROUNDS

May 9, 2023

Horsfield M, Waqar A. Epic Tips: Documenting social determinants of health and sexual orientation and gender identity.

NATIONAL HISPANIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (NHMA) 26TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

April 27-30, 2023

Mejia MC. NHMA Advocacy recommendations to improve Latino health: Climate justice.

Mejia MC. Improving the health of Latinos in our communities: Decreasing smoking among Latinos.



PRESENTATIONS

35TH INTERNATIONAL PAPILLOMAVIRUS CONFERENCE (IPVC 2023)

April 17-21, 2023

Hirth JM, Gutierrez J, Ostovar-Kermani T, Zoorob R. Up-to-date human papillomavirus vaccination status by race/ethnicity and age at initiation in the United States across time.

AMBULATORY CARE SERVICES (ACS) GRAND ROUNDS

April 18, 2023

Bujarski S, Mejia M. Lung Cancer Screening: Who, when, and how?

SOCIETY FOR HEALTHCARE EPIDEMIOLOGY OF AMERICA (SHEA) SPRING 2023 CONFERENCE: SCIENCE GUIDING PREVENTION

April 11-14, 2023

Amenta E, Valentine-King M, Laytner L, Paasche-Orlow M, Barning K, Mahmood H, Porter T, Street R, Trautner BW, Grigoryan L. Identifying non-prescription antibiotic users with screening questions in a primary care setting.

Laytner L, Chen P, Nash S, Paasche-Orlow MK, Olmeda K, Salinas J, Street R, Zoorob R, Trautner B, Grigoryan L. Perspectives on non-prescription antibiotic use among Hispanic patients in the Houston metroplex: A qualitative study.

Valentine-King M, Trautner BW, Zoorob R, Hansen M, Matas J, Atmar R, Grigoryan L. Clinical factors and diagnoses associated with inappropriate urine culture ordering in primary care.

RICE MEDICAL HUMANITIES CLUB SYMPOSIUM AND HACKATHON ON SPECULATIVE FUTURES OF HEALTHCARE: TOWARD HEALING AND JUSTICE

April 7, 2023

Faustinella F. The power of audiovisual media as a tool of communication and self-expression.

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE (ACPM) ANNUAL MEETING PREVENTIVE MEDICINE 2023

March 20-23, 2023

Gutierrez J, Levine R, Hirth J, Zoorob R. Racial, ethnic and gender trends in lung cancer mortality rates in the United States-Mexico border and non-border areas between 1999 and 2020.



PRESENTATIONS

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE (ACPM) ANNUAL MEETING PREVENTIVE MEDICINE 2023 (CONTINUED)

March 20-23, 2023

Mejia M, Gonzalez S, Kowalchuk A, Scamp N, Webb L. Understanding pandemic health inequities among marginalized and medically underserved populations.

Mejia M, Matas J, Levine R, Zoorob R. Shared decision-making and decisional conflict in a lung cancer screening program for underserved populations.

Mejia M, Gittner L, Levine R, Tu B. United States mortality from conditions amenable and not amenable to health care: 1999-2020.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MEDICINE (FCM) GRAND ROUNDS

March 21, 2023

Faustinella F. The United States Health Care System: How did we get here and what's next.

PRI-MED SOUTHWEST | PRIMARY CARE CME/CE CONFERENCE & EXPO

March 16-18, 2023

Sarkar A, Airy M, Bedrose S. Did I miss the diagnosis in hypertension? Unrecognized primary aldosteronism: Who and how to screen.

For a list of past presentations, visit the [Center for Population Health Research Presentations web page](#) on BCM.edu.

23RD ANNUAL HENRY J.N. TAUB & JAMES K. ALEXANDER MEDICAL STUDENT RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

March 9, 2023

Brown R, Rode R, Aggarwal A. Assessing and improving medical student knowledge on Houston's socio-demographic history and its implications on present day SDOH challenges.

Ezenwabachili I, Atyam M, Daniel H, Rode R, Aggarwal A. Mother Knows Best: An empowering educational intervention addressing knowledge gaps amongst mothers recovering from substance use disorders.

Graham M, Rode R, Aggarwal A. Prepping for PrEP: Evaluating efficacy of a PrEP educational intervention for primary care physicians.

Shamim H, Rode R, Aggarwal A. Breaking Barriers: An educational intervention for survivors of domestic violence.

Dillawn P, Martinek K, Tomlinson M, Rosiji F, Rane S, Rode R, Aggarwal A. Getting Adolescents Into Nutrition (GAIN): A pilot study on children's nutrition education. *Third Place Poster in Health System Science Research

Vu J, Gandhi A, Samuel S, Ho S, Garcia L, Rode R, Aggarwal A. Patient satisfaction with the use of language interpretation services.

Hernandez A, Mihail S, Rode R, Aggarwal A. Factors that influence perceptions of family as a barrier or facilitator for physical activity in Hispanic adolescents at risk for type 2 diabetes.

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MEDICINE

NEWSLETTER

MARCH - JUNE 2023 ISSUE 3



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