

MEDICINE

NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

MATTERS

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

JUNE 2022



I hope everyone is doing well as we head into the last month of the academic year. This is an exciting time of the year to celebrate our residents and fellows who will be graduating and moving on to the next stage of their careers. In addition, we will soon welcome new trainees and share in their excitement, enthusiasm, and anxieties. We are so fortunate that we attract the very best trainees to

our programs, and remember to thank your program directors for their outstanding leadership day after day.

This month we highlight the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine and its many subdivisions which are led by Dr. Christopher Kramer. The Division has a long history of excellence in all of its missions. As you will read about, this tradition continues and has been expanded in recent years with programs in Women's Health and Personalized Medicine (among many others). One of the reasons for this newsletter is to highlight people and programs and create awareness for our community regarding the depth and breadth of our Department and faculty and staff. This is so true with this Division, where their reach is so broad and impactful and their excellence so pervasive. Congratulations to the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine, Dr. Kramer, and the entire faculty and staff.

With best wishes,

Mitchell H. Rosner MD MACP
Henry B. Mulholland Professor of Medicine
Chair, Department of Medicine

 UVA Health | DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

MISSION

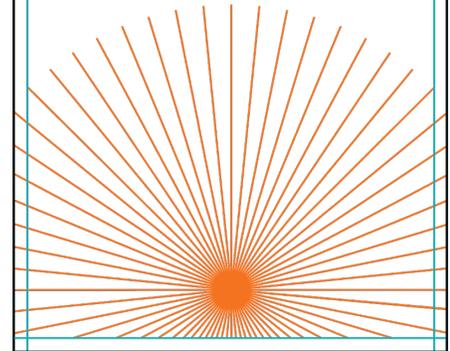
We are dedicated to preventing disease and treating illness, educating and inspiring future leaders in the field of internal medicine, and supporting innovative biomedical research.

VALUES

We strive for a sense of community, connection, and synergy among all faculty, staff, and trainees.

PLEDGE

We will conform to the highest ethical standards, uphold the values of our partner organizations, and give back to our community through public service.



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[GRAND ROUNDS](#) ▶

[HIGHLIGHTED DIVISION](#) . . . ▶

[MINDFULLNESS MATTERS](#) . . . ▶

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UVA Health

DOM UPDATES & NOTES

DOM Financial Update

Department of Medicine Summary of Consolidated Financials FY21 as of April 30, 2022

	Budget YTD	Actual YTD	\$ Variance YTD
Work RVUs	884,383	888,888	4,505
Clinical Receipts (NPSR)	57,195,254	57,772,021	576,767
Total Revenues	157,383,402	169,428,657	12,045,255
Total Expenditures	156,694,559	165,993,173	(9,298,613)
Net Income	688,843	3,435,484	2,746,642

Summary Explanation of Variance:

For the fiscal year through April, 2022 DOM posted a consolidated net gain of \$3.4M and a favorable variance to YTD net income budget of \$2.7M. Clinical receipts outperformed budget by \$577K due to higher clinical charge volumes.

Total expenditures outpaced budget driven by timing and unbudgeted grant expenditures on new and existing awards.

Total revenues include FY22 CARES Phase 3 Allocations of \$460K, Phase 4 PRF Allocation of \$374K and \$787K Endowment revenue recorded for May through June.

New studies opened since April 1, 2022

Cellular Therapies

AGAVE-201, A Phase 2, Open-label, Randomized, Multicenter Study to Evaluate the Efficacy, Safety and Tolerability of Axatilimab at 3 Different Doses in Patients with Recurrent or Refractory Active Chronic Graft Versus Host Disease who have Received at least 2 Lines of Systemic Therapy / SNDX-6352-0504

IRB #HSR210396

CT. Gov. ID: NCT04710576

Sponsor Protocol SNDX-6352-0504 AGAVE-201

Sponsor: Syndax Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Principal Investigator: Volodin, Leonid

Study Contact: Danyelle Coley jcs6rz@virginia.edu 434-982-5027

GenitoUrinary (GU)

First-in-human, dose titration and expansion trial to evaluate safety, immunogenicity and preliminary efficacy of W_{pro1} in patients with metastatic castration resistant prostate cancer and W_{pro1} in combination with cemiplimab and/or goserelin acetate in patients with high-risk, localized prostate cancer

IRB #HSR210147

CT. Gov. ID: NCT04382898

Sponsor Protocol RN5609C00 PRO-MERIT Sponsor: BioNTech RNA Pharmaceuticals GmbH

Principal Investigator: Dreicer, Robert

Study Contact: Alexandra Cash aec5gn@virginia.edu 434-243-4305



Mindfulness Matters
A Newsletter from the
UVA Mindfulness Center



**12 Mental
Health and
Wellness
Resources
For You To
Know About**

Save the Date!

2022 Michael J. Weber Symposium

The second annual Michael J. Weber Symposium to honor Dr. Weber's life and achievements will be held on October 14, 2022. The central theme will be "Multi-Omics Precision Oncology"

More information here: [2022 Michael J. Weber Symposium](#)

DOM UPDATES & NOTES



Mary Witt MD



Melody Noble RN MSN AG-ACNP



Jenna Campo AG-PCNP



Matthew Reilley MD



Kelly Davidson MD



Lisa Mackey



Scott Heysell MD MPH



Stellah Mpagama MD PhD



Rahul Sharma PhD



Jacqueline Hodges MD MPH



Kenneth Bilchick MD



Sula Mazimba MD

Awards and Achievements

Welcome to **Dr. Mary Witt** to the Division of Hematology/Oncology. Dr. Witt has joined the Community Oncology office and has begun seeing patients in Fishersville.

Congratulations to **Melody Noble RN MSN AG-ACNP**, Medical Oncology – Urgent Management Clinic/Infusion Center, and **Jenna Campo AG-PCNP**, Medical Oncology – GI Oncology Team from the Division of Hematology/Oncology, who are the APP nominees for PNSO Nursing Awards - *Excellence in Advanced Practice Nursing*.

Congratulations to **Dr. Matthew Reilley** (Division of Hematology/Oncology), featured this month in the *NANET's* newsletter. Dr. Reilley has been an active NANETS member since 2018 and a member of the NANETS' Communications Committee since 2020. Learn more [here](#).

Congratulations to **Dr. Kelly Davidson** (Division of Hematology/Oncology) and the Adult Comprehensive Sickle Cell Team on receiving a new grant from the Virginia Department of Health.

Congratulations to **Lisa Mackey**, Fellowship Coordinator for the Division of Hematology/Oncology, who is celebrated 20 years of service in May, ten as Fellowship Coordinator.

Congratulations to **Dr. Scott Heysell** and **Dr. Stellah Mpagama** who will lead their team in the Division of Infectious Diseases in a new program in Tanzania to train the next generation of tuberculosis researchers. Read more [here](#).

Congratulations to **Dr. Rahul Sharma** and collaborators (Division of Nephrology-CIIR), who published a study that was featured on the cover page of the *European Journal of Immunology*. The study highlights potential targets in autoimmune processes and avenues for new therapeutic approach.

Congratulations to **Dr. Jacqueline Hodges** (Infectious Diseases and International Health), who spoke to *MedCityNews* about her team's work developing and piloting a smartphone app to support patients recovering from opioid use disorder.

Congratulations to **Drs. Kenneth Bilchick** and **Sula Mazimba** (Cardiovascular Medicine), whose research was featured in an article in *U.S. News & World Report* on Using Gout Medication for Heart Failure.

Congratulations to **Dr. Lyndsey Muehling** and her co-authors and mentors including Dr's Woodfolk, Heymann, and Platts-Mills, (Division of Asthma, Allergy, and Clinical Immunology) on their Clinical & Experimental Allergy paper "*Cluster Analysis of Nasal Cytokines During Rhinovirus Infection Identifies Different Immunophenotypes in Both Children and Adults with Allergic Asthma.*"

Dr. Taison Bell Delivers Keynote Speech at University of Virginia 2022 Final Exercises

Dr. Taison Bell delivered prepared remarks to the Class of 2022 as the Sunday keynote speaker. Read or watch Dr. Bell's speech [here](#).



FRIDAYS AT NOON via Zoom
Click for details and schedule.

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

MEDICINE GRAND ROUNDS

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

UVA Health experts share insight on timing for COVID-19 booster (NBC29)

UVA Health experts (Dr. Costi Sifri) share insight on timing for COVID-19 booster.



What is Paxlovid and how will it help the fight against coronavirus? An infectious diseases physician answers questions on the COVID-19 pill (Yahoo News)

Dr. Patrick Jackson has helped care for hundreds of COVID-19 patients and assisted in Paxlovid clinical trials. The Conversation asked him to explain what the drug does and what impact greater availability may have in the fight against the coronavirus.



Dr. Taison Bell Talks About the State of the Pandemic and Health Equity

Just as covid-19 vaccines were rolling out, Dr. Taison Bell spoke with KHN about why Black Americans were getting vaccinated at lower rates than white Americans were. More

than a year later, we checked in with Bell, an assistant professor of medicine and an intensive care unit doctor at the University of Virginia, about the state of the pandemic and changes that have occurred in the health equity conversation since then.



DIVISION OF CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINE

Message from Cardiovascular Medicine Division Chief Christopher Kramer MD



Christopher Kramer MD

The University of Virginia's Division of Cardiovascular Medicine is nationally recognized for excellence in clinical care, research, and teaching. Faculty members provide expert, comprehensive care for all forms of cardiovascular disease through the UVA Heart and Vascular Center, which serves 4,000 inpatients at University Hospital and an additional 52,000 in outpatient clinics each year. The division's clinical practice covers a wide range of disciplines, including general cardiovascular disease and prevention, cardiac imaging, electrophysiology, diagnostic and interventional cardiac catheterization, valvular heart disease, basic and advanced heart failure, mechanical support, adult congenital heart disease, sports cardiology, and vascular diseases. The division's collaborative approach to patient care brings together specialists from cardiovascular medicine, pediatric cardiology, cardiac surgery, adult cardiac and vascular surgery, and diagnostic and interventional radiology to optimize treatment for each patient. In the last year, the division achieved Gold Plus Get with the Guidelines from the AHA for its heart failure care and the Mission: Lifeline Bronze Award for the care of post-MI patients. Its faculty and professional research staff excel in the research arena, with over 100 grants and total

annual grant funding of approximately \$8 million (directs). The division's research activities range from basic biomedical research to physiologic and device-related clinical studies to large international clinical registries.

2021-22 was a banner year for recruitment with eight new faculty hires, including Amit Patel MD, and Patricia Rodriguez MD, highlighted in this edition of Medicine Matters. Chad Hoyt MD, began in March and will spend 20% of his time in noninvasive Cardiology and 80% in his role as Executive Director of Clinical Growth and Outreach for UVA. New physician-scientist faculty joining this summer include Jonathan Lindner MD, as the Frances Ball Chair and Vice-Chair for Research in the CV Division, bringing his basic and translational molecular imaging laboratory, and 2) Antonio Abbate MD PhD, as the Ruth C. Heede Chair and Director of Clinical Research, bringing his translational and clinical research laboratory in cardiovascular inflammation and immunology. Also joining the faculty are Thomas Gehrig, MD (husband of the new Chair of Ob-Gyn, Paola Gehrig MD) as a general and interventional cardiologist, Kelly Wingerter MD, as a general and women's heart specialist, and Merry Ellen Barnett MD as our 3rd Vascular Medicine specialist.

Highlights of the past year include:

1. Zhen Yan PhD, won the UVA Distinguished Researcher Award.
2. Coleen McNamara MD, garnered both a UVA Prominence to Preeminence (P2PE) grant award, dubbed iPRIME, highlighted in Medicine Matters, and the COVID Team Science Award.
3. Aditya Sharma MD, was named to the Board of Trustees of the Society for Vascular Medicine.
4. Sula Mazimba MD, was selected to the inaugural AHA Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Editorial Board.
5. Michael Valentine MD, was appointed co-chair of the UVA Clinical Strategic Planning group.
6. Randall Moorman MD's company AMP3D, a medical data analytics company, was acquired by Nihon Kohden, a large Japanese medical monitoring company.

~ Christopher Kramer MD

The Women's Heart Program

by *Patricia Rodriguez Lozano MD*

Heart disease is the leading cause of death for women. Of the 1 million deaths of women in the United States, over 400 thousand were related to cardiovascular disease. Cardiovascular disease (CVD) currently claims more women's lives each year than cancer and chronic lung disease combined.

For a long time, cardiac care was focused on men, which was thought of as a predominantly male issue. And while heart disease treatment was the same for women and men, women had the worst outcomes. Studies have proven the difference in results is related to women presenting with different symptoms and a lack of awareness related to cardiovascular risk in women. The most recent American Heart Association (AHA) survey to evaluate trends in females' awareness, knowledge, and perceptions associated with CVD indicated that although heart disease was the most frequently identified leading cause of death among women, recognition was far lower in 2019 compared with 2009 (43.7% versus 64.8%). In 2019, significantly greater proportions of women than in 2009 identified cancer and breast cancer as the leading cause of death. Notably, women



Patricia Rodriguez Lozano MD

are less likely to attribute ischemic symptoms to heart disease, and this will lead them most likely to delay seeking treatment.

Cardiovascular disease is not the same in women and men. Women can have different risk factors and symptoms. Evidence suggests that traditional and novel CV risk factors are often underrecognized in women. Several female-specific risk factors have been identified as increasing the risk of CV disease in women, including pre-term delivery, pre-eclampsia, gestational diabetes, polycystic ovary syndrome, autoimmune disease, breast cancer, and depression. We know that women have a less obstructive disease. It does not necessarily mean that the symptoms are not real or that they are not related to any form of atherosclerosis. This might be because women tend to have blockages in their main arteries and the smaller ones that supply blood to the heart. This condition is called coronary microvascular disease.

In the last couple of decades, substantial efforts have been made toward awareness, education, advocacy, and research specific to women. Private practice groups and academic institutions created focused CVD care delivery models for women, including Heart Centers for Women, in response to the increasing attention on CVD in women.

The Women's Heart Program at the University of Virginia is an initiative from the Division of Cardiology to increase awareness in the community, improve education for women and their healthcare providers, expand research, and reduce social barriers to cardiovascular care for women. Our vision is to create a collaboration among the many healthcare disciplines that provide care for women. Our Program aims for a unique personalized, integrated model utilizing existing guidelines for best practices, a multidisciplinary approach with expertise in diseases unique to women or seen more often in women, such as spontaneous artery dissection, Takotsubo cardiomyopathy, fibromuscular dysplasia, and coronary microvascular dysfunction. Our Program aspires to have a leading role in identifying female-pattern heart disease, developing new diagnostic tools, and advancing specialized care for women with and at risk of heart disease. Our current research includes studies to advance the understanding of cardiovascular and coronary heart disease in women and the role of novel medical and lifestyle interventions in treating heart conditions specifically for women.



VISIT CARDIO TWITTER

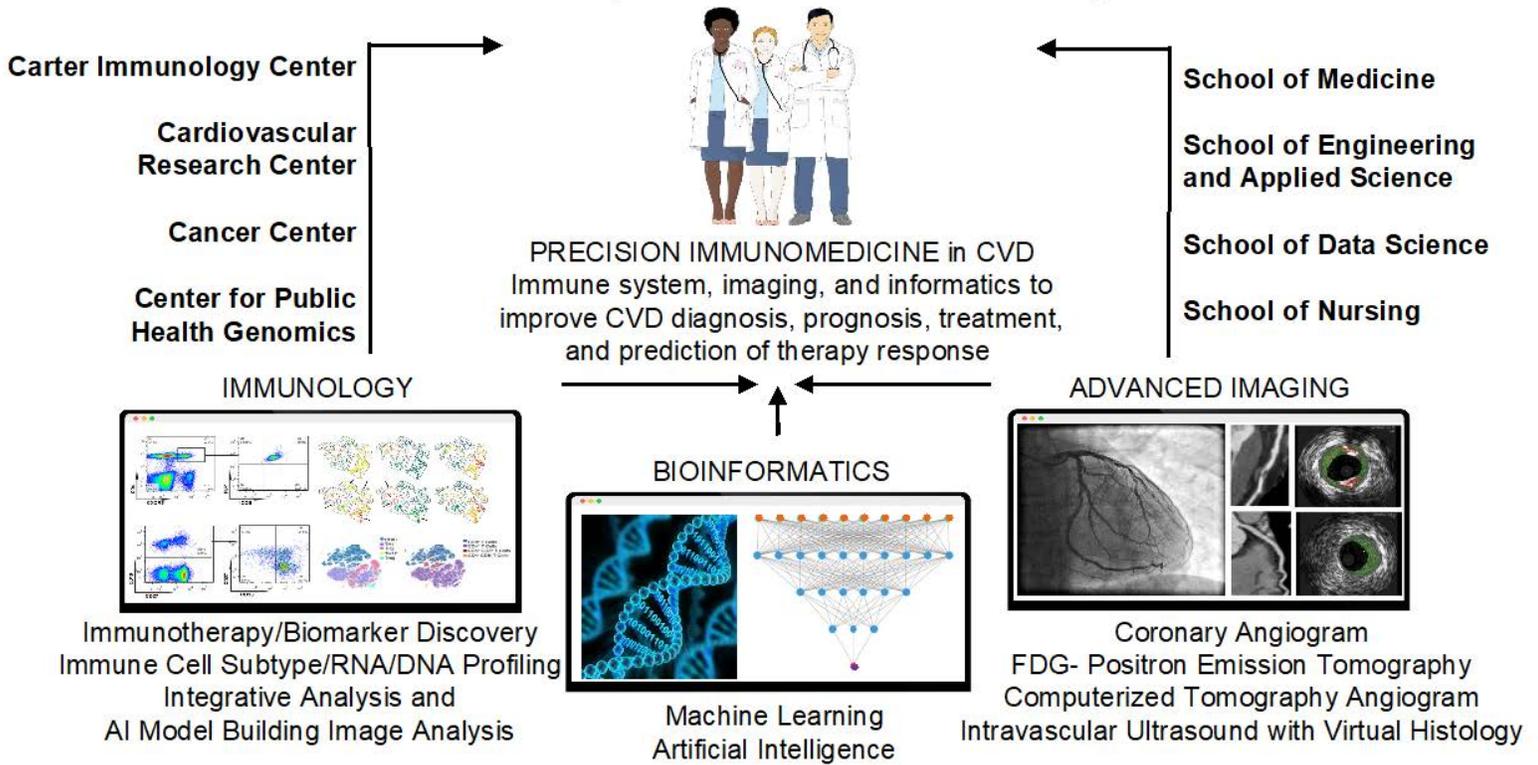


**VISIT CARDIOLOGY
FELLOWSHIP TWITTER**

CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH UPDATE

Precision ImmunoMedicine (iPRIME) at UVA Health

Using Immunology, Advanced Imaging, and Informatics to inform and enhance the precision of clinical decision making in CVD



Basic, Clinical, and Translational Researchers in the Cardiovascular Division are members of a team that was recently awarded one of UVA's Prominence-to-Preeminence (P2PE) awards. The funded proposal seeks to build a research ecosystem in precision ImmunoMedicine for Cardiovascular Disease (CVD). Precision medicine has the potential to transform how medicine is practiced, but it is currently challenging to implement it in the clinic and establish a translational research-precision medicine virtuous cycle. Insufficient technologies, limited knowledge, and research gaps are significant obstacles to adding precision medicine to clinical care. The program entitled Immunology, Imaging, and Informatics for PrecisionImmunoMedicine (iPRIME) in CVD will officially launch this fall.

This iPRIME initiative, under the leadership of Drs. Coleen McNamara, Angela Taylor, Stefan Bekiranov, and several other outstanding faculty members from the Cardiovascular Division and other UVA schools and centers seek to enhance CVD research and clinical care. Drs. Hema Kothari (CV Division and CIC) and Mike Davis (CIC) will serve as Program Manager and Administrator, respectively. The iPRIME initiative focuses on the immune system as it plays a crucial role in the progression, severity, and outcomes of CVD. While immunomodulatory therapies have emerged as potential therapeutics for CVD, a complete understanding of mechanisms, biomarkers, and effective and tailored therapies in humans is lacking. We propose to integrate cutting-edge single-cell technologies for an in-depth functional analysis of circulating immune cells of CVD patients, advanced cardiovascular imaging, and state-of-the-art bioinformatics and artificial intelligence to discover and implement advanced precision immunomedicine approaches.

UVA has cutting-edge technology for single-cell analytics and high dimensional data needed to realize this vision, yet these resources are underutilized for human precision medicine studies. The iPRIME overarching goal is to create a collaborative research infrastructure that fosters multi-disciplinary collaborations to generate large human immune cells, imaging, and clinical datasets to discover potential biomarkers of risk, disease progression, and response to specific therapies. This will allow UVA faculty to develop precision approaches to CVD based on immunology, imaging, and informatics, from prior, ongoing, and future studies to advance precision immunomedicine. With the iPRIME initiative, we will generate knowledge that can inform and enhance the precision of clinical decision-making in CVD and train the next generation of researchers and clinicians. New website with more details coming soon!

DIVISION OF CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINE

CARDIOVASCULAR CLINICAL UPDATE



Cardiovascular Medicine Advanced Practice Professionals

By Suzanne Waters MS FNP APRN B-C (Lead Cardiovascular Medicine Nurse Practitioner)

The Cardiovascular Medicine Advanced Practice Providers (APPs) provide support to various sub-specialties within the division of cardiology, to including Inpatient Acute Care, Ambulatory Clinics (hospital-based and satellite), and peri-procedural care (UH and F500). The team has grown over the last decade, in response to program development, centers of excellence, and expansion to various satellite locations (F500, Fishersville, Zions, and Culpepper). All APP team members are cross-trained to a minimum of 2 sub-specialties to optimize staffing coverage. Patients who are scheduled for cardiac studies/procedures will be seen by an APP before and after the diagnostic study &/or procedure. Interventional cardiology encompasses Cardiac catheterizations, electrophysiology procedures (ablation/cardiac implants), congenital procedures, heart failure diagnostics/implants, advanced valve procedures, and cardiac transplant (pre/postop diagnostics and surveillance studies). The non-invasive areas include Stress lab and cardiac PET testing. The APPs participate in sub-specialty

Suzanne Waters MS FNP APRN B-C

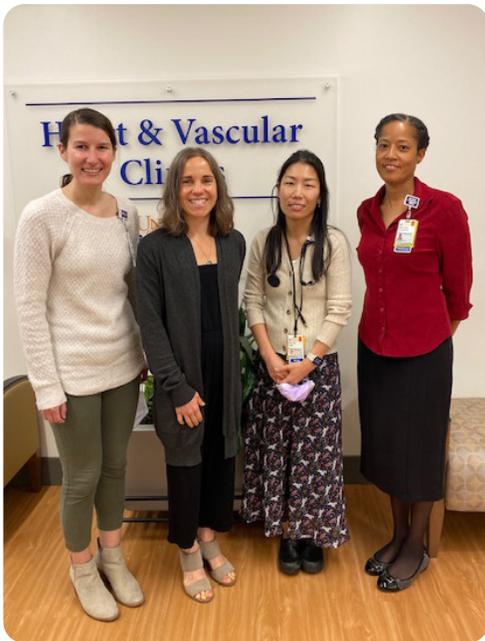
process improvement activities and clinical trials. The APP team is actively engaged in the Cardiovascular Advanced Practice Provider (CAPP) Fellowship program in an effort to “grow our own” while obtaining CE credits with learning activities. APPs partner with physician colleagues in all sub-specialties and bill independently, when indicated.

Clinical Highlights:

Inpatient NP Team: The team is composed of acute care APPs

- This team manages admissions, transfers (to/from ACS/CCU/CTU), discharges (weekday/weekend), consults (advanced valve), and those patients who underwent a procedure that required ongoing overnight monitoring. This program has expanded to 7 days/wk and recently went to 12 hr shifts to accept late weekday post-procedure cases and weekend post-procedure discharges.

Peri-procedural team: This team is composed of acute care and outpatient APPs (NPs and PAs) at UH and F500



From left: Christa Lauffenberger FNP, Emily Koch ACNP, Min hee Kang AGACNP, Mercedes Armstrong FNP

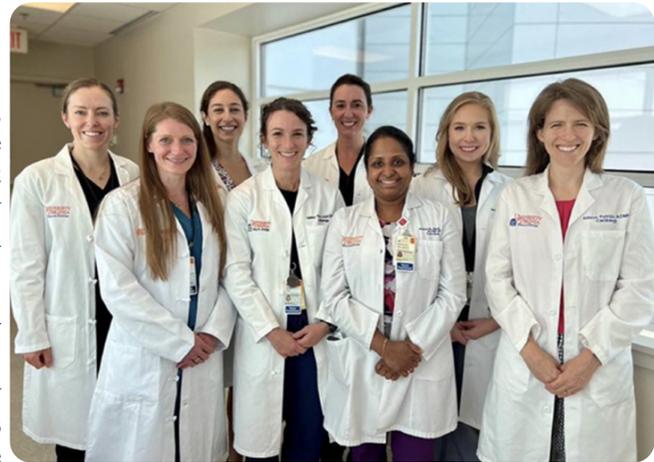
- **Interventional Cardiology Team:** This team manages patients at UH, who are scheduled for cardiac catheterization, congenital procedure, diagnostic testing, cardiac electrophysiologic ablations, and cardiac implants (pacemakers, ICDs, and closure devices). The operation runs on weekdays and all APPs from IP and OP are cross-trained.

- **Non-invasive Cardiology Team:** This team manages those patients who required further cardiac diagnostic testing at UH, and F500, and includes: Stress testing and cardiac imaging. There are 2 locations (UH and F500).

- **Ambulatory Clinic Team:** This team is composed of Family nurse practitioners and Acute Care NPs

- This team is composed of APP sub-specialties including: Heart Failure, Electrophysiology, General Cardiology, MI clinic, Prevention, Cardio-metabolic, Advanced Valve and Pre-procedure clinic.

- The operation runs on weekdays and is supported by APPs who are cross-trained in multiple areas.



Front from left: Brianne Benedetto AGACNP, Ashley Viars AGACNP, Maheswari Murugesan PhD ACNP, Allison Patrizio AGACNP
Back from left: Haley Taylor AGACNP, Katharine Wisener AGACNP, Christie Vivian AGACNP, Melanie Richwine AGACNP

CARDIOVASCULAR EDUCATION UPDATE

Early Career Leadership Academy

By C. Michael Valentine MD MACC

Ten clinicians across the Cardiovascular Service Line recently completed a year-long course in leadership development. The Cardiovascular Early Career Leadership Academy (ECLA) was created in 2020 through a grant from the Ivy Foundation, and senior leaders and Division Chairs choose the participants for their current roles and future potential. Dr. Mike Valentine and Corrin McCloskey led the course, a former cardiovascular administrative leader at Centra in Lynchburg, a former cardiovascular administrative leader, and now an executive at Bon Secours in Richmond. Valentine had created Leadership Courses at the American College of Cardiology, and both had developed a successful Early Career course at Centra together.

The live sessions, detailed case presentations, and team-based solutions, strategies, and problem-solving occurred every two months. The major themes were Leading yourself, Leading Teams, and Leading systems. These required personal testing of leadership styles (DiSC profiles), understanding individual strengths and weaknesses, and learning to assimilate different styles into more



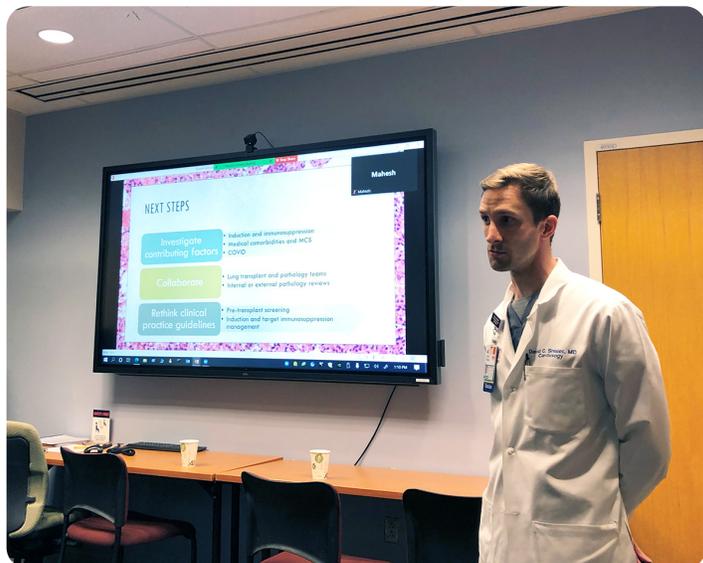
C. Michael Valentine MD MACC

effective teams. In between sessions, participants read books and select papers on various leadership topics, frequently met with mentors to learn and gain feedback, and developed a Capstone project involving an area of need and interest within their divisions. They listened to and conversed with book authors, national healthcare leaders, and consultants and worked directly with UVA Professors from the Darden and Batten Schools. The sessions closed with training in public speaking and digital formats so that their individual Capstone Projects were presented to the group (and judges) with impressive confidence and remarkable skill. A closing celebration dinner allowed for tributes to each participant and the mentors that supported them throughout the year.

We are looking forward to potential mid and senior career offerings and more extensive career and leadership training plans as part of our new Health System Strategic Plan.



ECLA participants and guests listening to presentations



Dr. David Shisler presenting CAPSTONE project



Dr. Oliver Monfredi presenting CAPSTONE project

DIVISION OF CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINE

2022 - 2023 INCOMING FELLOWS



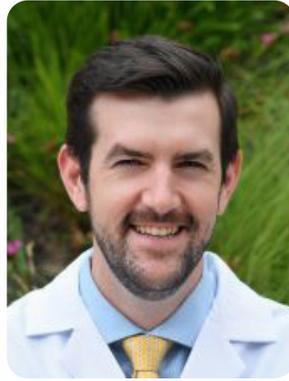
Zachariah Nealy
Advanced Imaging
SUNY Upstate



Nisha Hosadurg
Advanced Imaging
UVA CVD Fellowship



Yaqub Betz
Cardiovascular Disease
Medicine
UVA Internal Medicine



Jamey Cutts
Cardiovascular Disease
Medicine
UVA Internal Medicine



Anish Desai
Cardiovascular Disease
Medicine
Oregon Health



Alison Kim
Cardiovascular Disease
Medicine
University of Vermont



Travis Skipina
Cardiovascular Disease
Medicine
Wake Forest



John Vitarello
Cardiovascular Disease
Medicine
Beth Israel Deaconess



Paras Patel
Electrophysiology
UVA CVD Fellowship



Michael Zimmerman
Electrophysiology
UVA CVD Fellowship



Camila Maestas
Interventional Cardiology
University of Arizona



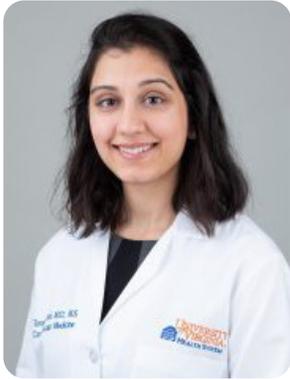
Ningyan Wong
Valve
National Heart Centre
Singapore



Kunal Mishra
Vascular
Texas Tech

DIVISION OF CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINE

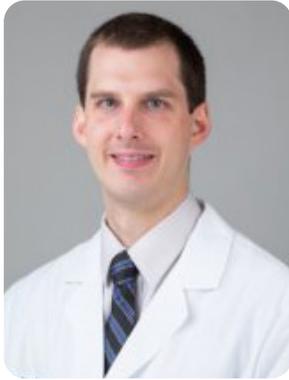
GRADUATING FELLOWS



Toral Patel
Advanced Imaging
Heart and Vascular
Institute of Stroobants
Lynchburg VA



Patricia Rodriguez Lozano
Advanced Imaging
Asst. Prof., UVA Div of
Cardiology



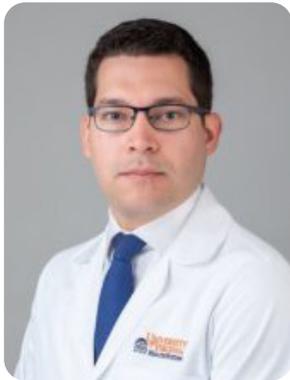
Andrew Brown
Cardiovascular Disease
Medicine
Ascension St. Vincent's -
Jacksonville FL



George Mawardi
Cardiovascular Disease
Medicine
Atrium Health-Charlotte NC



Paras Patel
Cardiovascular Disease
Medicine
UVA Electrophysiology
Fellowship



Edward Rojas Pena
Cardiovascular Disease
Medicine
Lutheran Hospital - Des
Moines IA



Michael Zimmerman
Cardiovascular Disease
Medicine
UVA Electrophysiology
Fellowship



Brittney Heard
Electrophysiology
Pinnacle Cardiovascular
Assoc. - East. Alabama
Medical Center-Opelika AL



Brian McNichols
Interventional Cardiology
Lexington Medical Center
- Lexington KY



Merry Ellen Barnett
Vascular
Assistant. Professor - UVA
Division of Cardiology

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

Ayers MP, Peruri AV, Bourque JM *Transforming ATTR cardiac amyloidosis into a chronic disease: The enormous potential of quantitative SPECT to improve diagnosis, prognosis, and monitoring of disease progression.* J Nucl Cardiol. 2021 Oct;28(5):1846-1850. doi: 10.1007/s12350-021-02587-w. Epub 2021 Apr 13.

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Schumann CL, Bourque JM *Heart rate response to vasodilator stress: A potential new application for a proven prognostic parameter.* J Nucl Cardiol. 2021 Dec;28(6):2684-2686. doi: 10.1007/s12350-020-02168-3. Epub 2020 May 8.

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DIVISION OF CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINE

STAFF PROFILE - Cheryl Etelvari



Tell us a little bit about yourself.

My husband of almost 37 years, George, and I moved from Raleigh, North Carolina, to Charlottesville in 2007 for his job. When we decided to relocate, I wanted to work at the University of Virginia. So in February 2008, I began working in the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at the Kluge Children's Rehabilitation Center as the lab manager of the Motion Analysis and Motor Performance Lab.

Four years later, I moved to the Department of Medicine as the program coordinator for the Pulmonary & Critical Care and Nephrology fellowship programs. Just as the Covid pandemic began, I transitioned to program administrator for the Cardiovascular Division's fellowship programs. I had to start working from home almost immediately and didn't meet anyone face-to-face for a long time! It was a crazy transition, but just over two years later, I think I'm finally catching on (a little).

Why medical education?

The field of medicine is fascinating to me; the speed at which we can create new drugs and procedures to improve people's lives never ceases to amaze me. I never realized how long it takes or how challenging the process is to become a highly specialized physician; I feel truly honored to be a small part of that process.

What excites me about my work?

Expanding my knowledge in whatever area I am working. Learning new ways to do things to become more efficient. Working with an awesome DOM team of coordinators willing to help out whenever needed. Delivering the best customer service I can to make my clients (the fellows) happy and knowing they have someone to come to when they need assistance.

What am I doing on the weekend?

You can usually find me on the golf course pretending to be an LPGA player! I enjoy cooking, baking, and trying out new recipes.

What is one thing about you that would surprise us?

I started biking two years ago when my 6 AM workout group ended due to Covid and still ride three days a week, winters inside on a trainer and outside once the weather cooperates. I ride with a friend who keeps me motivated, and we do an average of 45-50 miles per week.



Favorite vacation spot?

Anywhere warm with sand, palm trees, and steel drums.

Best Advice?

Greet each day and everyone you meet with a smile and always put a little something away for a rainy day.

First Job?

When I got my first 'real' job, I was sixteen years old. I was a Nurse's Aide in a nursing home.

Next Life?

Landscape/nature photographer.



DIVISION OF CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINE

FELLOW PROFILE - David Cook



Tell us a little bit about yourself.

I grew up in Hilliard, Ohio, before attending the Ohio State University, where I majored in Molecular Genetics. I graduated from Wright State University Medical School before matching at the University of Virginia for residency and stayed for a cardiology fellowship. I live in Charlottesville with my wife Karli, son Calvin and chocolate lab Martha.

Why Medicine/Cardiology?

Cardiology was always appealing to me because I love the subject matter and the rapid development in all specialty areas over the past several decades. It provides a relatively unique opportunity to practice medicine in multiple settings, including clinic, inpatient, radiology/nuclear medicine, and the ICU and procedural areas. I enjoy taking care of a wide variety of patients ranging from preventative care in the outpatient setting to helping people through life-threatening situations in the hospital.

What brought you to Charlottesville?

I hadn't spent much time in Charlottesville before matching here for residency. Since moving here, I have been amazed at the hiking opportunities and love the proximity to the mountains and Shenandoah National Park.

What excites you about your work?

I love the challenge of trying to master the different imaging modalities in

cardiology and apply them to direct patient care.

What are you usually doing on the weekend?

I am spending time outside with my family or visiting one of the many breweries/wineries in the area. I also enjoy playing rec league soccer on Sundays.

What is the one thing you always have in your fridge?

Mad Hatter hot sauce.

What is your favorite vacation/activity spot?

My favorite vacation spot is St. John, US Virgin Islands. It combines some of the most beautiful beaches in the world with hiking trails, as much of the island is a national park. I had the opportunity to go there with my wife during medical school and look forward to visiting again soon!



What is your favorite quote?

The book "Grit" by Angela Duckworth contains numerous life lessons and great quotes. One of my favorites is "Without effort, your skill is nothing more than what you could have done but didn't."

What about you would surprise us?

I love to play guitar and have been a member of numerous blues/rock bands.

What is a talent or skill you don't have that you wish you did?

I have always thought it would be exciting to get my pilot's license and fly planes.

Favorite fictional characters?

Walter White from Breaking Bad and Charlie Kelly from It's Always Sunny in the Park (don't worry; neither of these are role models).

What year would you travel to if you could go back in time?

Good try. I have seen enough movies to know time travel is a bad idea.

What is the last book you read for pleasure?

I recently re-read "House of God."



DIVISION OF CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINE

FELLOW PROFILE - Patrick Stafford



Tell us a little bit about yourself.

I've been at the University of Virginia for five years after growing up and attending college and medical school in Maryland. I am now a PGY-5 fellow in Cardiovascular Medicine. Afterward, I will be staying on at UVA to complete an advanced fellowship in Interventional Cardiology.

Why healthcare?

As the son of a physician, I was able to have an early exposure to medicine and healthcare that sparked an interest that grew over time. As with many, medicine was the intersection between helping people and science, which was appealing to me. Practicing medicine has allowed me to answer scientific questions with clinical research and take part in education.

What brought you to Charlottesville?

I initially came to Charlottesville in 2017 to complete Internal Medicine Residency training at UVA. I not only received excellent clinical training and a quality research experience but enjoyed my co-residents and my time spent

outside of the hospital around town and the surrounding areas.

What excites you about your work?

There is a lot to be excited about in medicine and cardiology. I can honestly say I learn something new every day and work with a great group of fellows and attendings. I also enjoy the ever-advancing technology, medication options, and procedural techniques.

Next life?

Globe trekker or food blogger.

What are you usually doing on the weekend?

Weekends are spent with some combination of hiking, cooking, running, visiting a local vineyard or brewery, and catching up on movies. Charlottesville and the surrounding areas offer a lot to do.

What is the one thing you always have in your fridge?

Eggs – are so versatile for any meal, cuisine, or cooking method. Is it safe for a cardiologist to say that?

What is your favorite vacation/activity spot?

A few memorable recent vacations include Japan, Norway, Thailand, Hawaii, and Acadia National Park. I am looking forward to an upcoming trip to Grand Teton National Park.



What is the best advice anyone ever gave you?

Never be afraid to ask a question or say “I don’t know,” which comes up in almost daily.

What was your first job, and how old were you?

My high school friend and I did local landscaping work in the Maryland summer heat and humidity at sixteen. I certainly gained a newfound respect for shade, sunscreen, and hydration.

Favorite foods?

Tacos...followed closely by steamed Maryland blue crabs.

DIVISION OF CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINE

FELLOW PROFILE - Patricia Rodriguez Lozano



Tell us a little bit about yourself.

I've been at the University of Virginia since 2019. After completing my General Cardiology Fellowship at the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB), I joined UVA as an Assistant Professor in the Division of Cardiology from 2019 to 2020. In 2020, I joined the NIH T32 Advanced Imaging Fellowship, where I could combine my research experience with training in advanced imaging. Starting July 2022, I will join the Imaging/General Cardiology group as Director of the Women's Heart Health Program and Assistant Fellowship Director.

Why Research?

For me, research is an opportunity to expand my vision and my content-based knowledge. I am constantly confronted with problems and hypotheses that challenge me to question my premises and produce new knowledge. My current research interest centers around women's heart disease, valvular heart disease, and Cardiac Imaging.

What brought you to Charlottesville?

I decided to pursue further training in Advanced Cardiac Imaging. Cardiac Imaging ensembles are challenging diagnostic problems. It helps solve diagnostic puzzles, often with a tremendous

impact on patient management. There is no better place to be trained in Cardiac. In the T-32 Advanced Cardiovascular Imaging Fellowship, I found the perfect balance of clinical imaging training and research opportunities. Also, Charlottesville is an ideal place to raise a family.

What excites you about your work?

My father is a physician in Peru. He taught me that being a doctor is a privilege and responsibility that entails being the best physician and person we can be for our patients. I love being a doctor and helping patients and their families in the most vulnerable times. Despite the stress and long hours away from home and family, I could never imagine a different career.

What do you consider to be your greatest achievement outside the professional realm?

My beautiful family. I have a loving, supportive husband and two beautiful daughters who fill my life with laughter and fun.



What are you usually doing on the weekend?

I spend most of my time with my two daughters, Salma and Maha, playing with their toys, coloring, or watching a Disney movie.

What is the one thing you always have in your fridge?

Milk and orange juice.

What is the best advice anyone ever gave you?

Success means having the courage and the determination to become the person you believe you were meant to be. Never give up.

What is the last book you read for pleasure?

"Arrive and Thrive, 7 impactful practices for women navigating leadership"



DIVISION OF CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICINE

FACULTY PROFILE - Amit Patel



Tell us a little bit about yourself.

I returned to the University of Virginia just a few months ago after spending nearly the last thirteen years at the University of Chicago. I was born in Toronto, Canada but grew up in Northwest Arkansas. I went to Hendrix College in Central Arkansas, where I majored in biology. I then went to Emory University for medical school and eventually ended up at the University of Chicago for my Internal Medicine Residency, where I met my wife. I did my cardiology fellowship at Temple University. My mentor noticed my passion for cardiac imaging and introduced me to the cardiac imaging fellowship program at UVA, where I spent two years learning cardiac imaging and research. After completing my training, I took my first faculty position at the University of Chicago, where I was the director of cardiac MRI and CT and rose to Associate Professor of Medicine and Radiology. While in Chicago, I had the opportunity to help patients with heart disease by building a clinically outstanding and collaborative cardiac MRI and CT program, which also supported the faculty and trainees' research and education initiatives.

Why Healthcare?

Taking care of patients is a real privilege. As physicians, we have the opportunity to impact someone's quality of life which is extremely rewarding. Taking good care of a patient requires you to know the person and understand what and who is important to them. This allows you to work with the patient to make treatment decisions that make sense. What makes medicine even more exciting is that this personal side of medicine is combined with the need to understand the science underpinning the disease and its various treatments. Working in an academic medical center makes all of this even more exciting because you have the opportunity to teach young future physicians and also to do stimulating research that may ultimately help the very patients you care for.

What brought you to Charlottesville?

When we were here before, my wife and I absolutely loved the "personality" of Charlottesville. It's a progressive place with plenty to do. The people are very friendly, and you can't beat all the nature and history surrounding the area.

What excites you about your work?

The University of Virginia has a very talented group of scientists, engineers, and physicians on campus eager to collaborate. This provides a really exciting opportunity to discover, innovate, and solve problems impacting my patients.



What are you usually doing on the weekend?

Probably going on a long walk and enjoying the outdoors.

What is your favorite vacation/activity spot?

I enjoy going to the National Parks. So far, my favorite has been Glacier National Park. The views are truly stunning, but I have plenty more that I need to check out. Of course, Hawaii is incredible, and my favorite city outside the US is Barcelona.

Who is the person you admire most, and why?

Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King. Both people inspired millions of people to use means of non-violence to pursue equality and justice.

