

MEDICINE

NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

MATTERS

AUGUST 2021

 **UVA Health** | DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

MISSION

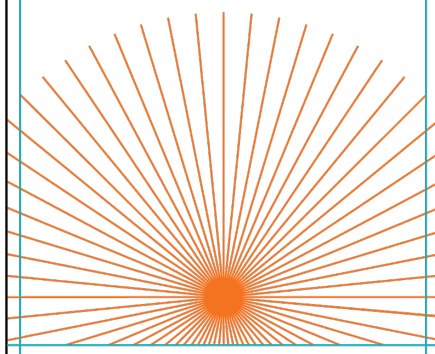
We are dedicated to preventing disease and treating illness, educating and inspiring future leaders in the field of internal medicine, and supporting innovative biomedical research.

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.



DoM WEBSITE 

GRAND ROUNDS 

HIGHLIGHTED DIVISION . . . 

MINDFULLNESS MATTERS . . . 

GIVE TO DOM 

SUBSCRIBE 

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



As we close the books on the past academic year, there are many positive signs for the Department of Medicine. We just finished welcoming our new residents and fellows and, once again, we are excited by their enthusiasm and excellence. Our research continues to be ground-breaking and growing stronger. This year research expenditures out-paced budget, and we have recruited several outstanding clinical and basic science investigators that will soon join the Department. Clinical activities also continue to grow, and we are approaching nearly a million work RVUs per year, and the quality of care is unparalleled. Lastly, our financial performance continues to be strong despite the uncertainties of the past year. So, my thanks to all of you for a strong year and positioning us well for an even stronger future.

This issue of medicine matters features the Division of Rheumatology, and I am sure you will enjoy reading about the activities of the faculty, fellows, and staff in the Division. In addition, we welcome the first Divisional mascot (that I know of). Perhaps, this will become a DOM trend! Under Dr. Lewis's leadership, the Division has grown, developed key institutional and collaborative programs, and provides outstanding care for complex patients while providing a world-class educational experience. Please join me in congratulating the Rheumatology Division for an outstanding year and their many contributions.

With best wishes,

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



UVA Health

DOM FINANCIAL UPDATE

Department of Medicine Summary of Consolidated Financials FY21 as of June 30, 2021

	Budget YTD	Actual YTD	\$ Variance YTD
Work RVUs	945,145	940,295	(4,851)
Clinical Receipts (NPSR)	63,142,367	63,647,444	505,077
Total Revenues	179,717,137	179,853,684	136,547
Total Expenditures	182,526,383	178,511,820	4,014,563
Net Income	(2,809,247)	1,341,863	4,151,110

Summary Explanation of Variance:

DOM ended the fiscal year 2021 with a consolidated net gain of \$1.3M and a favorable variance to YTD income budget of \$4.2M. The net gain of \$1.3M was driven by financial mitigations. Clinical revenues underperformed budget by \$71K due to the impact of COVID-19 (financial mitigations and less Medical Center support). The UPG Collection Fee Rebate F \$503K offset the impact of the pension charge back UF \$17K. Personnel and NonPersonnel expenditures outperformed budget driven by the impact of financial mitigation efforts offsetting the required \$1.6M FY20 clinical deficit support recorded in FY21.

New Studies

BREAST

A study to assess overall response rate by inducing an inflammatory phenotype in Metastatic BReast cANcEr with the Oncolytic Reovirus

PeLareorEp in Combination with anti-PD-L1 Avelumab and Paclitaxel BRACELET-1 Study
IRB #
HSR200361
CT. Gov. ID:
NCT04215146
Sponsor Protocol PrE0113/BRACELET-1
Sponsor: PRECOG
Principal Investigator: Dillon, Patrick Study
Contact: Not specified

SMACT:SCT/MDS/Acute Leukemia/CAR T-cell

A phase 3 open-label randomized study to compare the efficacy and safety of Luspatercept (ACE-536) versus Epoetin Alfa for the treatment of anemia due to IPSS-R very low, low or intermediate risk Myelodysplastic Syndromes (MDS) in ESA NAIVE subjects who require red blood cell transfusions

IRB #
HSR200188
CT. Gov. ID:
NCT03682536
Sponsor Protocol ACE-536-MDS-002 Sponsor: Celgene
Principal Investigator: El Chaer, Firas Study
Contact: Taylor Durham crz7ds@virginia.edu

**WELCOME
NEW FELLOWS!**
WE ARE SO GLAD YOU ARE HERE

**Visit the UVA Internal Medicine
Instagram Page**



**Check out UVA Pulmonary's
New Twitter account!**

DOM UPDATES & NOTES



By now most know of Drs. Costi Sifri and Mitch Rosner's bobble-headed counterparts, which were given to them in thanks for provided public health guidance to President Jim Ryan and the UVA leadership team throughout the pandemic by Madison Hall staffers, but who can resist seeing this delightful photo one more time? *(Photo by Sanjay Suchak, University Communications)*

For the
6th year in a row, the
**DEPARTMENT
OF MEDICINE**
has once again been
honored by the MS4
students with the
**MULHOLLAND
DEPARTMENTAL
TEACHING
AWARD!**
**Congratulations
Everyone!**

Welcome To The World



Congratulations to Carissa and Jorge Cruz who welcomed baby Diego Steven into the world on June 21, 2021.



Congratulations to Sam and Arielle Maldonado who welcomed baby Isabella Skye into the world on March 25, 2021.

DOM UPDATES & NOTES



Tri Le, MD



Matthew Reilley, MD



Tamila Kindwall-Keller, DO



Jordanna Leake



Janet Tillage



Erin Harr, MSN, APRN, AGACNP-BC, BMTCN



Amelia Hodson, MSN, APRN, AGACNP-BC



Nishtha Sodhi, MD

Awards and Achievements

Welcome, **Dr. Gwen Garcia** in the Division of Hematology/Oncology to the *UVA Cancer Center Augusta Clinic* in Fishersville. Dr. Garcia will begin seeing patients August, 2021.

Congratulations to **Dr. Tri Le**, who will assume the role of *Program Leader, GI Medical Oncology* and to **Dr. Matthew Reilley** who will assume the role of *Director, GI Medical Oncology Research*.

Congratulations to **Dr. Tamila Kindwall-Keller** on 10 years of service with the Division of Hematology/Oncology.

Congratulations to **Jordanna Leake** on 15 years of service with the Division of Hematology/Oncology.

Congratulations to **Janet Tillage** on 15 years of service with the Division of Hematology/Oncology and 35 years of service with UVA.

Congratulations to the **Division of Hematology/Oncology inpatient team** on a successful move on June 29, 2021 from 8 West & 8 North. Units have been combined into one on 3 South as Acute Oncology. The new move has created two dedicated workroom spaces for the Hematology/Oncology house staff teams, a conference room for teaching, five additional patient beds, and a dedicated pharmacy workspace.

The Division of Hematology/Oncology would like to welcome **Erin Harr, MSN, APRN, AGACNP-BC, BMTCN** and **Amelia Hodson, MSN, APRN, AGACNP-BC**, two new Advanced Practice Providers. They will be working on the inpatient Stem Cell Transplant Unit.



Congratulations to **Dr. Nishtha Sodhi**, Medical Director of the Advanced Cardiac Valve Center, and the UVA structural heart disease team, comprised of interventional cardiologists and cardiac surgeons, who performed the first trans-septal transcatheter mitral valve replacement as part of a clinical trial using the Medtronic Intrepid Valve. The team replaced the mitral valve via a leg vein with no incision in the chest. This was the 18th successful procedure of its kind in the world and the first in Virginia. Then the team went on to be showcased at the 2021 TVT Structural Heart Summit in Miami and which was broadcast worldwide. UVA Advanced Cardiac Valve Center was one of ten hospitals worldwide to perform live cases for this conference. Huge congratulations to the entire team, which included Nishtha Sodhi, MD, Leora Yarboro, MD, Scott Lim, MD, Dale Fowler, MD.

[Read more here.](#)

Publications Hematology/Oncology - January 1 2020 – June 16 2021

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DIVISION OF RHEUMATOLOGY

Message from Janet E. Lewis, MD, Division Chief, Rheumatology



Janet E. Lewis, MD

As the chief of the Division of Rheumatology, I am proud of the commitment to clinical care exhibited by the Division faculty members, fellows, and clinical staff over the past year as we navigated the challenges of delivering patient care during the COVID pandemic. While clinical staff and physicians were utilized in various capacities to provide COVID care, screening, and vaccination, the clinic (faculty, fellows, and remaining staff) continued to evaluate, treat, and monitor our patients via TeleHealth and in-person on an ongoing basis. We are delighted to have, as of July, our full complement of dedicated RNs, LPNs, MAs, as well as our new Rheumatology Fellowship class, back to work in the clinic.

We continue to have robust demand for clinical services in the ambulatory setting. We currently have six faculty members who see patients at the Fontaine practice, and additionally, we have satellite practices at Pantops and Fishersville.

Recognizing the increasing complexity of medical care in patients with multisystem autoimmune disease, we have continued to develop more formal partnerships with other specialties. We currently have a combined pulmonary/rheumatology clinic for patients with interstitial lung disease, a combined dermatology/rheumatology clinic for patients with complex cutaneous and rheumatic manifestations, and a combined nephrology/rheumatology clinic for patients with SLE and vasculitis.

The fellowship program continues to grow under the guidance of Dr. Don Kimpel (fellowship director) and Dr. Adam Carlson (associate fellowship director). Nationally, interest in rheumatology fellowship training among internal medicine residents has continued to rise, and we continue to recruit high-quality candidates for training. In addition to the fellowship program, our faculty continue to play an active role in teaching medical students and residents.

The last year continued to present challenges to the Division given an ongoing regional shortage of rheumatologists, limiting patient access to care. As a Division, we look forward to growth in 2022, which will provide us with opportunities to expand our clinical practice to improve access to care.

~ Janet E. Lewis, MD

Rheumatology Journal Club
3rd Wednesday, 10 - 11 am

DIVISION OF RHEUMATOLOGY



Jae Hee Yun, MD



Janet Lewis, MD



Donald Kimpel, MD

Faculty Awards and Accomplishments

Congratulations to **Dr. Jae Hee Yun** (rheumatology) and Dr. John Yun (pulmonary) who are recipients of the *Annette Lightner Research Award* for their project *Elucidating Biological Pathways in Dermatomyositis-Related Interstitial Lung Disease*. The Annette Lightner Fund is an endowment, the income from which supports medical research in rheumatology, autoimmune diseases, and rheumatoid arthritis.

Congratulations to **Dr. Janet E. Lewis** who received a *University of Virginia, School of Medicine, Certificate of Commitment to Medical Education*.

Congratulations to **Dr. Donald L. Kimpel** who received a *University of Virginia, School of Medicine, Certificate of Commitment to Medical Education*, and has been elected to the *UVA Academy of Distinguished Educators*.

Publications

Pavlakakis, P, Lawrence-Ford, T, Mahajan, S, **Lewis, J**, Varadhachary, A, Briggs, I, Goldberg, E, Wallace, D, and Mandel, S, Diagnosis and Management of central nervous system Sjogren's syndrome. In F.B. Vivino (Ed). Sjogrens Syndrome: A Clinical Handbook (pp189-203). Elsevier publishing, 2020.

Rheumatology Grand Rounds

Every Wednesday, 8 - 9 am

Research in Progress

First Wednesday, 10-11 am

Case Conference

Every Wednesday, 9 - 10 am

Didactic Conference

2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 10 - 11 am

DIVISION OF RHEUMATOLOGY

UVA RHEUMATOLOGY SPOKES-PUG AND MASCOT - Winston

Tell us a little about yourself.

I'm a four-and-a-half-year-old Instagram-famous pug, just living an ordinary life. I'm technically a "learned dog-ter", by association. Both of my parents are in medicine. My mom, Dr. Leslie Hilding, is a hospitalist at Sentara Martha Jefferson while my Dad, Dr. Elijah Mitcham, is in his last year of Rheumatology fellowship here at UVA. I'm a true southern gentleman, born and raised in Georgia. I'm from a line of AKC show pugs but never pursued that, opting instead for a life of leisure and pampering. I'd rather spend time with pups and people and have never met a stranger!

Proudest / greatest achievement?

My greatest achievement would be my Instagram page - @winstogramrug. I have over 50,000 followers!!!! Initially, my page was a way my Mom could justify the number of photos she took of me. We had no idea along the way what it would amount to. We love our Instagram community. Check out my page!

My proudest moment was being the ring bearer at my parents' wedding. My parents got married at Keswick Vineyards in May of this year. Charlottesville is a special place to us, so we can now commemorate it forever. I had a custom tuxedo and flower collar specially made because of course as the pup I said, "I do, too!"

What is your favorite activity?

My favorite activities include snoozing, snacking, zooming, and being loved on. I am one of the friendliest, most outgoing, and joyful pups around. We hope that I can be a therapy dog one day in the hospital to comfort all of the families and patients in need of some brightness in their day.

What's is your favorite food?

I would call myself a connoisseur of cheese. You name, it... cheddar cheese, swiss cheese, cream cheese, string cheese, goat cheese, hard cheese, soft cheese, stinky cheese, I could go on and on.



If you could learn to do anything, what would it be?

Opening the fridge door.....to get more cheese! Have I mentioned I like cheese???

Words to live by?

"I didn't choose the pug life, the pug life chose me."

Thanks for taking the time to get to know me! I sincerely thank all of you for what you do for our community and the world! Go Hoos!!!!

DIVISION OF RHEUMATOLOGY

FELLOW PROFILE - Atish Dey

Tell us a little bit about yourself.

I've been at UVA for a year training in fellowship in rheumatology. I moved to Virginia after completing my residency in internal medicine in Southern California. Before that, I completed medical school in Las Vegas, Nevada. I live in Charlottesville with my growing collection of plants.

Why Healthcare?

I love learning, I love people, and I love trying new things. Medicine is constantly evolving and there is always more and more to learn. The practical applications of all this constantly expanding pool of knowledge usually results in better health and more happiness for people. Best of all, I get to talk to new people every day and help them feel better. Healthcare and the practice of medicine was an obvious choice for me.

What brought you to Charlottesville?

The rheumatology program at UVA. I think our program director, Dr. Kimpel, had me at "who do you relate to more: Spock or Kirk?"

What excites you about your work?

The mystery! Our patients can have complex problems involving multiple systems that can be difficult to unify or even clarify. I love being a sleuth and using all the tools at my disposal, which sometimes includes adjusting my whole perspective, to figure out the whole picture.



Proudest/greatest achievement outside the professional realm?

Hiking the Salkantay trail in Peru.

Next life?

A Martian colonist! Or a settler on Alpha Centauri!

What are you usually doing on the weekend?

When I am not on call, I like to explore Charlottesville with friends, eat at different restaurants, and meal prep for the week. I try to make it to the Farmer's Market every Saturday.

How did you meet your partner?

We met when I first moved to Las Vegas for medical school. He brushed me off. Four years later, we ran into each other at a Starbucks in California where I was doing my residency. I have not yet successfully brushed him off in return.

What's one thing you always have in your fridge?

Sambal Oelek- I put it on everything, though I recommend refraining from trying it on chocolate ice cream.

Favorite vacation/activity spot?

My favorite vacation spot is Laguna Beach. Playing volleyball on the warm beach between the cold Atlantic Ocean and gentle hills is my idea of paradise. Antigua in Guatemala is a close second.

Most admired person, and why?

I often find myself asking "what would Captain Picard do?"

DIVISION OF RHEUMATOLOGY

FELLOW PROFILE - Atish Dey (continued)

Best advice anyone ever gave you?

Recognize and admit your faults.

What about you would surprise us?

I love gaming. My favorite game of all time is Magic the Gathering. I've been playing since grade school and I continue to be obsessed.

Your parents are physicians and left India and their careers to move to Iowa. Tell us a bit about what it was like growing up in Iowa.

I grew up in Fairfield, Iowa where a small, tightly-knit community adheres to the teachings of Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, a guru who brought Transcendental Meditation to the USA (and to The Beatles, Jim Carey, and Oprah among other A-list celebrities). The entire community meditates twice a day, every day. Children who attend Maharishi School are encouraged to cultivate their imaginations and creativity and taught ancient Hindu philosophies in the original Sanskrit. The health of the planet is an everyday concern and the community is very invested in becoming as carbon-neutral or negative as possible. The local cows are played ancient Indian music from the Gandharva Veda to help them relax and stay happy. Although I grew up dealing with some strange looks from kids from other towns (the perennial question was "do you guys fly when you meditate?") I couldn't have wished for a more magical childhood.

You are a serious weight lifter. What is your record for deadlifting?

My record personal record for deadlift as a single lift is 525 pounds.

You like to cook and bake. What was your greatest culinary disaster?

While I like both cooking and baking, I am disastrous at the latter. Probably because I like experimenting on the fly and without proper controls or well-thought-out hypotheses. But my greatest culinary disaster involved neither- it was Jell-O. I thought it would be funny to try making tuna salad encased in Jell-O. After two weeks of vacation with the monstrous concoction forgotten in the back of the fridge, the Jell-O had the last laugh.

Choosing rheumatology for a fellowship was an impeccable choice. Now that you are a 2nd-year fellow, what has surprised you the most about rheumatology as a field?

I have learned over the past year to channel my Zen and become comfortable with ambiguity. This has been quite an about-face from my training in internal medicine.

What is one of the best things about the UVA Rheumatology Division?

It's hard to pick one thing! I love working closely with the attendings. They each have such distinct personalities and their approach to the enigmas we deal with every day. Together, they create a work environment that is warm and welcoming. Our nurses and support staff are also very friendly and helpful. They make it easy to forget that I have only been here a year.



Radiology/Rheumatology Combined Conference
Last Wednesday of the month: 8 - 9 am
545 Ray Hunt Drive, Fontaine Research Park