**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS Monday Monthly NEWS for May 23, 2016**

**News You Can USE:** You may be aware that you can access some USMLE Step exam study resources at [http://libguides.lib.msu.edu/medicalboardexamprep](http://libguides.lib.msu.edu/medicalboardexamprep). Did you know that you can also access streaming music, streaming video of Shakespeare plays, a video library of LGBT studies, and MUCH MORE, all by visiting the MSU electronic library? Go to [http://libguides.lib.msu.edu/eresources/media](http://libguides.lib.msu.edu/eresources/media) and do some exploring!

**Kudos:** To all the 2016 graduates, and Dr. Lipscomb and her team for arranging a wonderful commencement ceremony at the Breslin Student Events Center on May 14th.

**Curriculum Process and Progress:** CHM is one of 10 medical schools participating in the AAMC pilot project studying Core Entrustable Professional Activities for Entering Residents, known as CoreEPAs or by the acronym CEPAER. The goal of the project is to understand what will best enable students to be entrusted to perform 13 key tasks required of new interns in order to maximize patient safety and new resident competence and confidence at the transition from undergraduate education to residency training. Planning is taking place for accomplishing this within both our present curriculum and our new curriculum structures. The tenth of the 13 Core Activities is:

**Recognizing a patient requiring urgent or emergent care and initiating evaluation and management:** This Core Entrustable Professional Activity is one of the most important, yet most difficult to “engineer” into a curriculum. CHM students have clerkship simulation experiences that enable them to encounter decompensating patients or an emergency situation, and they most certainly are a part of taking care of similar patients in the workplace during their clerkships—but whether they are “first responders” and have the opportunity to recognize and then initiate evaluation and/or management is not something that can be planned. There are obvious differences between preparing for an emergent situation (with simulation, for instance), gaining experience as a part of a team caring for an actual patient in the clinic or hospital, and being the caregiver who recognizes the situation and initiates next steps. The Core EPA pilot is very much about studying how to enable students to be ready for this challenge at the beginning of their first residency year.

**Academic Affairs Person You Should Know:** Renuka Gera is a board certified Pediatric Hematologist oncologist, Professor of Pediatrics and chief of division of MSU Adolescent and Pediatric Hematology Oncology in department of Pediatrics and Human Development. She has been serving as Community Assistant Dean for Lansing campus since 2005. She assumed this role after serving as pediatric clerkship director for couple of years. As community assistant dean Renuka has served on various college committees including subcommittee on medical student professionalism.

Her clinical practice includes pediatric oncology, hematology and hemostasis. She has been actively providing care to very sick children in both in patient and ambulatory setting. For her contributions to Pediatrics and Child Health Care she was the recipient of The William B. Weil Jr. Endowed Distinguished faculty award in 2014. Pediatric Hematology Oncology is a part of third year pediatric clerkship ambulatory experience and is also a popular elective for Lansing
based students. Mentoring clinical as well as preclinical children is very rewarding. She has been a mentor to many block 1 and 2 medical students and pediatric residents. She is the core faculty for pediatric resident education and was the winner of Teaching award in 2013.

Renuka received her MBBS degree from GR Medical College in Gwalior India. She completed a residency in pathology at ALL India Medical Institute Medical Sciences before coming to Lansing Michigan. Renuka completed her Pediatric Residency in Lansing and joined MSU as a fellow in Pediatric Hematology Oncology. She has been a full time faculty in department of Pediatrics and Human development since 1984. As a clinician educator Renuka has served in may roles in the college including interim chairperson department of Pediatrics and Human Development.

Renuka is the institutional Principal Investigator for Children Oncology Group. As a result of her efforts we currently have close to 50 open clinical trials at Michigan State University providing access to state of the art care to children with cancer in Greater Lansing Area.

Continuous Quality Improvement: This month’s CQI focus is on:

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| Students are required to fill out clerkship evaluations at the end of each clerkship, but are not sure that anyone does anything with that information | Documentation from clerkship directors of changes made for subsequent years based on student feedback. These examples are from the past year or two:  
- Medicine 608—dropped doing extra H&P’s for honors, dropped SIMPLE cases, changed PBA honors criteria based on student suggestions  
- Pediatrics—reduced the number of required H&P’s, revised grading of the Case Analysis Tool (differential diagnosis), reduced paperwork  
- Psychiatry—Shortened the length of online lectures  
- Family Medicine—dropped the required textbook, added SCP day  
- Surgery—changed required textbook, provided a student-generated list of resources for shelf exam prep, changing the number of students on the trauma rotation. |

Tip for Students: All students have access to the Encompass web site, which has a broad range of resources, from self-care to parenting tips, recipes for healthy eating, caring for an older parent, and even obtaining discounts at many stores. Check out www.encompass.us.com and use the password secchiamsu.
**Wellness Tip:** Hydrate, Hydrate, Hydrate! A good mantra to remember now the temperatures are rising and we are spending more time outside perhaps engaging in strenuous outdoor activities. By the time we recognize that we are thirsty, we are probably already mildly dehydrated (Kolasa, K.M. et. al, 2009). Staying adequately hydrated with water helps performance in both athletic and cognitive activities. So, drink up as long as it is water!

Drinking fluids with alcohol or caffeine tends to dehydrate. And, as we are finding out, access to clean, drinkable water is crucial to the health of individuals and the communities that they live in.

**Patient Care Pearl:** A recent article in the Archives of Disease in Childhood reports a recent large cohort study (11,764 children) shows that children of mothers who were overweight or obese prior to becoming pregnant were more likely (more than double the risk) to be overweight in the preteen years. The study also links childhood obesity to maternal smoking during pregnancy, low maternal education, high birthweight, never being breastfed, and introduction of solid foods before 4 months age. (Source: Massion S, et al. Exploring the impact of early life factors on inequalities in risk of overweight in UK children: findings from the UK Millennium Cohort Study, Arch Dis Child 2016;0:1–7.)

**Presentations and Publications:**

**Posters**

- **PTSD Moderating the Association between Rheumatoid Arthritis and DNA Methylation of IL-6**

**Presentations**

- **Applied Leadership Focus of my fellowship**

- **Breaking Bad (Habits): Pediatric Obesity Prevention in Primary Care**

- **Characteristics of Rural Students Applying to Medical School**

- **Competencies for Rural and Underserved Practice**

- **Correlates of Emotional Intelligence Among Matriculating Medical Students: what is important in a medical school applicant?**

- **A Description of Rural Premedical Internship Program Applicants**

- **Development of a Validated Instrument Assessing Students’ Attitudes toward Family Medicine**

- **Educational Debt and Physician Satisfaction: Data from one US Medical School**
• Effects of overexpression of Schlafen 12 on epithelial differentiation in rat intestine  

• Elevated Blood Lead Levels in Children Associated With the Flint Drinking Water Crisis: a Spatial Analysis of Risk and Public Health Response  

• Eliciting Patient Feedback to Improve HER-Generated Medication Lists  

• Examining the Impact of Intensive Resilience Tactical Training on Cortisol Patterns among Special Forces Police Officers  

• Finding and Keeping Home Care Workers  

• The Flint Water Crisis as an Environmental Injustice and a Result of Structural Racism  

• How Clinical Perspectives of Health Care Needs in Honduras have Changed in Primary Care Clinica  

• Hypertension and Type II diabetes are not associated with visceral inflammation or vascular remodeling/fibrosis in obese women  

• Improving the Medical Student Learning Environment on Labor and Delivery  
Denny Martin. AAMC/CGEA. Ann Arbor, MI. April 7, 2016.

• Institutional Practices to Support Primary Care Specialty Choice: A Systematic Review  

• Pathways to Comprehensive Primary Care  

• Roadmap to Comprehensive Payment for Family Medicine Services  

• Rural Preceptors: Motivations and Barriers to in-office Students  

• Simulation Use in Resident Evaluation: Best Practices  
Presentations continued

- **Social responsibility, self-actualization and empathy: A baseline comparison of characteristics of emotional intelligence and demographic characteristics of matriculating medical students**

- **Specialist physician recruitment and retention in rural Northern Michigan**

- **Training Family Medicine Students in Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT): A CERA Study**

Publications

- **Celebrating Complexity**

- **Enteric glia mediate neuron death in colitis through purinergic pathways that require connexin-43 and nitric oxide**

- **Opportunities to improve clinical summaries for patients at hospital discharge**

- **Racist Housing Practices as a Precursor to Uneven Neighborhood Change in a Post-Industrial City**

- **Rural Women Family Physicians: Strategies for Successful Work-Life Balance**

Did you publish or present recently? Send your citation to CHM.AcademicAffairs@hc.msu.edu, and we will list your accomplishments in the next edition of the Academic Affairs Monday Monthly!

An archive of Academic Affairs Monday Monthly newsletters can be found here.