OU GI FELLOWSHIP ANNUAL EVENT

A great time was had by all at the GI Fellowship Annual Event on Saturday, June 24th at the home of Bill and Lisa Tierney. We thank those who attended to join us in welcoming and honoring our incoming fellows, our continuing fellows, and those who would be moving on as practicing gastroenterologists (see page 2).

Please join us in congratulating those fellows who received awards: Dr. Aatish Patel—Chief Fellow Award, Dr. Ayokunle Abegunde—the Richard Harty Outstanding Fellow Award. Our GI fellows voted on the three teaching faculty awards and those selected as this year’s recipients were Dr. Donald Kastens for Endoscopy, Dr. Ralph Guild for Consultative Skills, and Dr. Mohammad Madhoun for Research. Congratulations to all of our awardees!

GI FELLOWSHIP UPDATE 2016-2017

Our annual GI Jeopardy was held on March 8th. The teams were drawn by our 3rd year fellows who served as team captains:

- Go Heavily: Dr. Pratyusha Parava (captain)
  - Drs. Hussein Bitar and Kelsey Able
- Dodgy Bowels: Dr. Ayokunle Abegunde (captain)
  - Drs. Sultan Mahmood and George Salem
- Wise Cracks: Dr. Aatish Patel (captain)
  - Drs. Molly Disbrow and Ijlal Ali

Two internal medicine residents participated in GI Jeopardy, Dr. Ijlal Ali, participated as a team member on the Wise Cracks to even out the teams and Dr. Hassaan Zia assisted our GI Jeopardy Master of Ceremonies, Dr. William Tierney with scoring. Both Drs. Ali and Zia will be beginning their GI fellowship training on July 1, 2017.

Categories prepared by our Master of Ceremonies, Dr. William Tierney were:

- IBD Novels-New or emerging therapies in IBD; DDSEP Redux—Questions related to DDSEP tests; Liver Pathology 101—Basic liver histopathology; Nutrition Epic Fail—Nutritional deficiency syndromes; Small Bowel Potpourri—Questions related to small bowel disease and Genes and Guts—Hereditary GI diseases. A fierce battle ensued between the Go Heavily and the Dodgy Bowels teams, but the Go Heavily team were the final victors, each member of the team receiving the prize of a $100 to be used for educational expense(s).

GI FELLOWSHIP UPDATE CONTINUED-

The GI Fellowship Professional Development Retreat was held on February 24, 2017. “Physician Burnout” was the focus of this year’s retreat. Dr. William Tierney provided a list of pre-conference reading assignments:


The retreat consisted of a presentation by Dr. William Tierney followed by a discussion on the reading assignments; ending with a round-table discussion. Afterwards, the GI fellows all headed to TOPGOLF for food and fun. (See Photo Gallery on Page 10).
INTRODUCTION TO OUR NEW GI FELLOWS

While we welcome our new fellows, we want to recognize those that left us to begin their careers as gastroenterologists. Dr. Pratyusha Parava joined a private practice in Midland, TX called Midland Gastroenterology and Hepatology. Dr. Aatish Patel joined Adult Gastroenterology Associates in Tulsa, OK where he will be joining GI Fellowship alumni; Drs. Kevin McNamara (2011-14), Matt Blankenship (2004-07) and Patrick Volak (1988-90). Dr. Ayokunle Abegunde is an Assistant Professor in the Division of Gastroenterology, Department of Medicine of Loyola University-Chicago, Stritch School of Medicine. (See Photo Gallery on Page 10).

Please join us in welcoming Drs. Ijlal Ali, Zia Hassaan, and Thomas “T.J.” Corredine to our GI Fellowship Program.

Ijlal Ali, M.D.- Hello, my name is Ijlal. I was born and raised in Jeddah (which translates as “bride of the Red Sea”) in Saudi Arabia, before going back to Pakistan for medical school. I chose the University of Oklahoma for internal medicine because of the great southern hospitality the people here demonstrated, and I decided to stay on for my gastroenterology fellowship. This program has an amazing academic structure and an outstanding support base for all its fellows. I have come to love Oklahoma as my second home and could not imagine living anywhere else. Away from work, I enjoy watching movies with friends, improving my squash skills, and following European soccer with hawkish passion. Hopefully, we’ll get an MLS team to add to the city’s great sports teams.

Zia Hassaan, M.D.- I hail from Lahore- Pakistan, a city known for its food, rich culture and Mughal architecture. I attended a boarding school and moved to the port city of Karachi to get my medical degree from The Aga Khan Medical College. I happen to be the only doctor in my extended family which is a source of great pride for my loving parents who have been very supportive throughout my academic career. I completed my residency in Internal Medicine at OUHSC in 2017 and feel extremely humbled for an opportunity to train here in Gastroenterology. I really enjoy good food, exploring new travel destinations and reading excerpts from Urdu literature and poetry. I love to watch cricket and tennis and have been a staunch Federer follower. After wishing farewell to cricket and field hockey, squash is my new passion, primarily because of its physical challenge. I feel fortunate to have been surrounded by wonderful colleagues who have indeed made this place a ‘home away from home’. I am looking forward to more exciting times in the years to follow.
TRAVEL AWARDS, GRANTS AND HONORS

Dr. Aatish Patel did an outstanding job serving as our Chief Fellow for the 2016-2017 academic calendar year.

- Drs. Aatish Patel and Ayokunle Abegunde (alternate) were selected by their peers to represent them on the Resident Council.
- Dr. Aatish Patel received a travel award to attend the KU Medical Center GI Fellows Course, Kansas City, KS, April 7-8, 2017.
- Dr. Sultan Mahmood received a Travel Award to attend the ACG 2nd Year Fellow’s Endoscopy Course in Washington, D.C. January 13-15, 2017.
- Dr. Hussein Bitar received a Travel Award to attend the Rocky Mountain Interventional Endoscopy Course in Denver, CO, February 9-10, 2017.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Gastroenterology fellows, Drs. Sultan Mahmood and Ayokunle Abegunde, both had abstracts selected for presentation (all expenses paid) at the 27th annual North American Conference of Gastroenterology Fellows (NACGF) at the Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress Resort in Orlando, FL, March 17-19. Attendance at the conference is limited to up to forty fellows and “by invitation only”. This was an honor to have two of our fellows abstracts selected as winners!

- Sultan Mahmood. Tube Feed APP: A Novel Smart Phone Application for Enteral Nutrition.
- Ayokunle Abegunde, et al. Association of Baseline γ-Glutamyl Transferase (GGT) Activity with HCV RNA and FIB-4 Score: Preliminary Results from the Hepatitis C Treatment Outcome Registry (HeCTOR).
- Dr. George Salem was selected to present, Assessment and Management of Hepatitis B at the Arkansas Oklahoma Endoscopy Society Annual Meeting in Dallas, TX, on June 11, 2017.

CAMPUS LEADERSHIP

1) CAMPUS COMMITTEES:
   a) Resident Council
      i) Aatish Patel (PGY6)
         (1) Aatish serves on the GME Patient Sub-Committee
      ii) Alternate-Ayokunle Abegunde (PGY6)
         (1) Ayokunle serves on the GME Education Sub-Committee
CAMPUS LEADERSHIP-CONTINUED

b) Complications Index Team
   i) Sultan Mahmood (PGY5)

c) Patient Care Committee
   i) Ayokunle Abegunde (PGY6)
   ii) Aatish Patel (PGY6)

d) Ethics Committee
   i) Kelsey Able (PGY4)

e) OUMC Quality Committee
   i) Molly Disbrow (PGY4)

f) OUMC Resident Advisory Committee (Kris Wallace, Chief Operating Officer)
   i) Hussein Bitar (PGY5)

2) SECTION COMMITTEES:
   a) Program Evaluation Committee (PEC)
      i) Chief Fellow-Aatish Patel

b) GI Fellowship Interview Committee
   i) Aatish Patel
   ii) Hussein Bitar

c) Patient Safety Improvement Project Multidisciplinary Committee
   i) Aatish Patel
   ii) Ayokunle Abegunde
   iii) Pratyusha Parava
   iv) Other Committee Members:
       (1) All third year fellows meet bi-monthly and work throughout the year with a multidisciplinary committee (team of nurses and other health care staff from OUMC) to identify a patient safety concern. An intervention to improve patient safety is implemented and the results reported to the entire section at the end of the academic year. The committee will make recommendations for care improvement on the basis of project results. An evaluation is completed by the entire section at the time of final presentation.

d) Quality Improvement Project Multidisciplinary Committee
   i) Hussein Bitar (Co-Chair) and Sultan Mahmood (Co-Chair)
   ii) Other Committee Members: Erin Youngs (Fac-Peds), Feng Yin (Res-Path), Jesse Conner (Res-Surg), Morgan Bonds (Res-Surg), Wenyi Luo (Res-Path), Jordan Morton (Res-IM) and Wei Zheng (Res-Path)
       All second year fellows identify an outcome based medical issue in the management of digestive diseases that may warrant an intervention for improvement. A multidisciplinary committee meets monthly. A period of baseline data is collected (typically 4 months) and then the intervention is implemented followed by collection of outcome data for the next 4 months. The project is presented to the entire section for review and comment. The committee will make recommendations for care improvement on the basis of project results. The final presentation will be evaluated by the entire section.

87% of our GI Fellows participated on campus leadership committees.
MEETINGS ATTENDED

- **Drs. Molly Disbrow, George Salem and Kelsey Able** all attended the ASGE 1st Year Fellows Endoscopy Course in Chicago, IL on July 29, 2016, August 1, 2016 and August 5, 2016 respectively.
- **Drs. Molly Disbrow and Kelsey Able** both elected to attend the AASLD 2016 Meeting in Boston, MA, November 11th-15th, 2016.
  - Of special note, Dr. Disbrow has since elected to hold a weekly liver specialty clinic at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center on Thursday’s beginning with the 2017-2018 academic calendar year.
- **Dr. George Salem** elected to attend the ACG 2016 Meeting held in Las Vegas, NV, October 14th-19th, 2016.
- **Drs. Mahmood, Bitar, Patel, Abegunde and Parava** all attended Digestive Disease Week 2017 in Chicago, IL, May 6th-9th, 2017.
- **Drs. Patel, Abegunde and Parava** all attended the Practice Management Seminar held by the OUHSC Graduate Medical Education Office on December 14th, 2016.
- **Drs. Patel and Abegunde** both attended the Resident Council Retreat on July 27th, 2016.
- Our first year fellows, **Drs. Disbrow, Able and Salem** all attended the Olympus 1st Year Fellow’s Hands on Experience held at the OU Medical Center endoscopy lab on September 16th, 2016. Senior fellows were invited to attend when schedules allowed.

COMMENDATIONS FOR EXCEPTIONAL CARE AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

- **Dr. Molly Disbrow** received the following commendation from Steven Crawford, M.D. Professor and Chair, OU Family Medicine: At our July Family Medicine M&M Conference, your name was mentioned as providing excellent service to our patients and our team. Thank you so much for your dedication and service to helping us provide superb care to our patients and education to our learners. (September 16, 2017)
- **Drs. Hussein Bitar and Sultan Mahmood** (among other awardees) received the following from Dr. Elisa Crouse, M.D., MS, Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education: I want to thank all of you for your contributions to, support of, and}

DDW 2017

**COMMENDATIONS-CONTINUED**

participation in our first Graduate Medical Education Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Day held on April 12th. It was a great day with outstanding abstract and poster presentations. We should be very proud of the efforts that our trainees have made to improve our learning and working environment.

Dr. Hussein Bitar (pictured with Dr. Postier) was nominated by peers, selected by majority vote of current active society membership, and inducted into the Gold Humanism Honor Society. Nominees must demonstrate professional virtues, humanism, interpersonal skills, and caring for others.

COMMENDATIONS-CONTINUED

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The GI Fellowship Program was honored to be the recipient of the ACG Edgar Ackhar Visiting Professorship for 2017. We hosted Dr. Brian E. Lacy, Ph.D., M.D., Professor of Medicine at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth, Section Chief of the Division of Gastroenterology & Hepatology, Director of the GI Motility Laboratory at the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, New Hampshire and Director of the MD-PhD program at the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth.

Dr. Lacy participated in two separate events; the first was a community program at the Oklahoma City Golf and Country Club on Tuesday, April 25th from 6-8:30pm where he presented, “Clinical Dilemma in Functional Bowel Disease”. The hostesses for the event were Ms. Jose Freede and daughter Margaret Freede Owens. On Wednesday, April 26th from 3-4:00pm Dr. Lacy presented our GI Conference at the Samis Education Center, “Functional Dyspepsia and Gastroparesis: One Disease or Two?”

Dr. Lacy’s clinical and basic science research interests focus on disorders of gastrointestinal motility, with an emphasis on irritable bowel syndrome, dyspepsia, gastroparesis, acid reflux disease, constipation, intestinal pseudo-obstruction, achalasia and visceral pain. Dr. Lacy spent the morning of Wednesday, April 26th meeting individually with our faculty and fellows.

In April, the GI Fellowship Program partnered with MCM Education to host Dr. Bincy P. Abraham, M.D., MS, FACP, Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, Weill Cornell Medical College; Director, Gastroenterology Fellowship Program and Director, Underwood Center, Fondren Inflammatory Bowel Disease Program at Houston Methodist in Houston, Texas. The one hour CME Grand Rounds activity, “Identifying and Managing Patients with IBD at Risk for Progressive Disease” was presented on May 17, 2017 from 3-4:00pm at the Samis Education Center.

Dr. Abraham’s talk was focused on treatment approaches for IBD and how they vary depending on disease type and severity and patient risk profile. An accurate diagnosis combined with severity and risk assessments at appropriate intervals are essential for optimal management of IBD. Despite guidance from AGA and ACG, clinicians have continued to demonstrate considerable variation in their approaches to both risk assessment and care for patients with IBD. Dr. Abraham’s presentation addressed severity and risk assessment, appropriate treatment, and patient communication.


Madhoun MF, Bhatti O, Zia H, Parava P, Bashir MH. Diabetics on Narcotics are Less Likely to Achieve Excellent Bowel Preparation Than are Patients with Either Condition. Dig Dis. 2017; 62 (3) : 723-729.


Abstracts 2016-2017


Ali Al, Abegunde AT, Allshine Chen A, Zhao D, Kanagala R, Fazili J. Screening for Hepatitis B Virus in Patients Receiving Immunosuppressive Therapy. Accepted for presentation at Stewart Wolf day 2017


Hussein Bitar, Hassaan Zia, Muhammad Bashir, Pratyusha Parava, Aejaz, Ulhaq, William Tierney, Mohammad Madhoun. Impact of level of fellowship training on moderate sedation use and adenoma detection rate. DDW 2017; May 2017; Chicago.


Molly Disbrow, Dr. Erin Rubin, Dr. William Tierney. Autoimmune Pancreatitis. Presented at: 2017 Stewart Wolf Research Symposium. 05/16/2017.

Molly Disbrow, J. Frederick Hughes, MD; Hunter Rhodes, MD; Salar Faizi, MD; Stephen Travis, MD. Stauffer Syndrome: A Case of Paraneoplastic Cholestatic Jaundice. Presented at: 2017 Stewart Wolf Research Symposium. 05/16/2017.

Pratyusha Parava, Hussein Bitar, Sultan Mahmood, Rabia Saleem, Teresa Yanchak, William Tierney, Mohammad Madhoun. Increased risk for multiple adenomas and/or advanced adenomas in patients with cecal adenoma. DDW 2017; May 2017; Chicago.


Mahmood S, Farooqui S, Madhoun M. Predictors of Inadequate Bowel Preparation for Colonoscopy: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis. Presented at 2017 Department of Medicine; Oklahoma City, OK. 05/16/2017.


Taseen Syed, George Salem, Donald Kastens. A Case of Lower Gastrointestinal Bleed Due to Intestinal Histoplasmosis in a Renal Transplant Patient. Presented at: Stewart Wolf. 05/16/2017.


Teresa Yanchak, George Salem, Donald Kastens. Esophageal Intramural Pseudodiverticulosis: A Rare Cause of Dysphagia. Presented at: Stewart Wolf. 05/16/2017.
Before You Hit Send...
Do you email patient or research participant PHI to an off-campus email address? If emailing off campus is necessary and permissible under your department or clinic rules, be sure your email is sent via a secure method and goes only to individuals authorized to receive the PHI. Secure methods include (1) using the patient portal and (2) putting [secure] in the subject line, using the brackets. Messages between ouhsc.edu email addresses are automatically encrypted, as are messages between an OUHSC.edu email address and an HCA email address, so these messages are secure as well. Sending PHI via unsecured email – even to research sponsors or other providers – is a violation of HIPAA policy and can easily lead to a breach. The Office for Civil Rights may impose monetary penalties for HIPAA breaches, especially those that result from deliberate disregard for patient privacy. Check your email recipients and confirm that the method you are using to send PHI to a non-OUHSC or non-HCA email address is secure – if in doubt, contact OUP IS or IT Security. Finally, be sure you are NOT using auto-forwarding or redirecting your messages to accounts outside of the University email system. Relevant HIPAA Policies and forms can be found at the University’s HIPAA website (https://apps.ouhsc.edu/hipaa/). (OU Physicians employees should also refer to MR 36 for specific OUP policy on emailing patients.)

If you have questions about these or any other HIPAA topics or would like to schedule a department training, please contact any of us; we are eager to help!

**Jill Raines**, Assistant General Counsel & HIPAA Security Officer HIPAA Compliance

**Valerie Golden**, Auditor HIPAA Project Manager

**Mary Milano**, University Privacy Official, Office of Compliance

**Marty Walton**, Assistant to the Associate General Counsel

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**ALUMNI NEWS**

We would like to thank local gastroenterologist, Paul Maton, M.D. for his generous donation of books for the GI fellowship library.

Mohammad Madhoun, M.D., MS, FASGE, FACP (2008-2011) was inducted into the Academy of Teaching Scholars at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in 2016. He became an ASGE Fellow in 2017. On April 28, the annual Aesculapian Awards Banquet was held, a time-honored tradition in which members of each medical student class honor the educators who have inspired and motivated them to pursue medicine. Mohammad Madhoun, M.D., Department of Medicine: Class of 2020 Preclinical Faculty Award, was one of the recipients honored at the Banquet for receiving the Aesculapian Award. The Aesculapian Award is the highest honor for medical student teaching.

Salman Nusrat, M.D. (2012-2015) became GI Fellowship Associate Program Director in 2017 at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center and serves as Chair of the Program Evaluation Committee. He was asked to present, *Practice Pearls in Gastroenterology*, at the Oklahoma Academy of Physician GME Conference in September 2016.

Tauseef Ali, M.D. (2006-2009) had many accomplishments during the 2016-2017 academic calendar years. He became the ACG Governor for Oklahoma for 2017-2019. He also became a member of several committees: ACP In-service Examination Committee for Internal Medicine Residency Programs, AGA Maintenance of Certification Committee, ACG Self-Assessment Test Sub-committee of Educational Affairs Committee, and CCFA Patient Education and Government and Industry Affairs Committee.

*We would like to honor our distinguished alumni both on our website and in our future newsletters. If you would like to share your personal and professional achievements; please forward that information to: Theresa Rush at Theresa-Rush@ouhsc.edu.*
GI fellows enjoying dinner together

GI fellows at the OKC Golf and Country Club for the ACG Edgar Achkar Visiting Professorship presentation.

GI Fellows at Top Golf for their Professional Development Retreat.

Check out those golfer stances!

Welcome reception

GI fellowship graduates 2014-2017

WHEREVER THE ART OF MEDICINE IS LOVED, THERE IS ALSO A LOVE OF HUMANITY.
~HIPPOCRATES~