

# IU GERIATRICS e-news for MARCH 2008

A newsletter from [IU Geriatrics](#) and the [IU Center for Aging Research](#)

## AWARDS

### IBJ Honors House Calls for Seniors with Community Achievement in Health Care



**Congratulations to Robin Beck, MD and the House Calls Team!**

The Indianapolis Business Journal has named House Calls for Seniors the 2008 Health Care Heroes winner in the Community Achievement in Health Care category. **Robin Beck, MD**, director of the House Calls program, accepted the award at a breakfast awards program held on March 7, 2008, in Indianapolis.

House Calls for Seniors provides health care for homebound frail and low income adults who have had little or no access to medical services because of physical or psychiatric disabilities. The program is operated by Senior Care at Wishard and by the IU Medical Group. The current personnel providing care and service to the program's patients are: **Dr. Beck, Ella Bowman, MD, PhD, Mickey Vogel, NP, Dianne Modleski, NP, Patty Lebo, LPN, Lisa Hoffman, MSW, Donna Casper, MSW, Debbie Olin, PSA, and Emily Ruth, PSA.**

Read about the House Calls program in an IBJ Health Care Heroes supplement online at <http://www.ibj.com/html/supplements.html>.

Now in its eighth year, the IBJ's Health Care Heroes awards program solicits nominations from the public in five categories, and a committee of 12 judges from all facets of health care pick three finalists, including a winner, in each category. In addition to Community Achievement in Health Care, the categories are Advancements in Health Care, Physician, Non-Physician and Volunteer.

### Gayathri Suresh Receives Darnell Medical Student Geriatrics Achievement Award

The faculty and staff of IU Geriatrics congratulate Gayathri Suresh, MSIII, who has been awarded the 2008 Jeffrey C. Darnell Medical Student Geriatrics Achievement Award.

The award was created in 2006 and honors the founding father of geriatrics at IU, **Dr. Jeff Darnell**, for his dedication and 31 years of service to his patients and to IU Geriatrics. It is presented annually to a medical student to recognize his or her outstanding leadership and service in the care of older adults.

Ms. Suresh received an engraved crystal keepsake, a one-year membership to the American Geriatrics Society and an all expense-paid trip to the AGS national meeting. A Darnell Award perpetual plaque is located in the Medical Science Building to commemorate the honored students.

**Glenda Westmoreland, MD, MPH**, announced the award during the March 12th Medicine Grand Rounds featuring a geriatrics presentation by Visiting Professor Dr. R. Sean Morrison.



L to R, **Jeffrey Darnell, MD, Gayathri Suresh, MSIII, Glenda Westmoreland, MD, MPH**

## GRANT



**Michael Weiner, MD, MPH**, is a co-investigator on "Perspectives of general practitioners towards evaluation and management of cardiovascular diseases among older adults," a grant that is funded by the Charitable Trust of the Auckland Faculty, Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners. The project's principal investigator is Ngaire Kerse, MBChB, PhD.

Dr. Weiner is on sabbatical working at the University of Auckland in Auckland, New Zealand, for the 2007–2008 academic year.

## Geriatrics Education Network of Indiana Welcomes Reynolds Foundation Site Visitors



Principal Investigator **Glenda Westmoreland, MD, MPH**, welcomed Marie Bernard, MD, The Donald W. Reynolds Chair in Geriatric Medicine, and Rani Snyder, MPA, Senior Program Officer of the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation at the GENI site visit on February 29, 2008.

[GENI is the Geriatrics Education Network of Indiana](#): A Statewide Dissemination of Geriatrics Education, a four-year training

grant funded by the Reynolds Foundation. The grant has facilitated improvements in the quality of geriatrics education and clinical care at the IU Medical Center and statewide by engaging faculty and community-based primary care physicians to learn more about geriatric syndromes and conduct quality improvement projects in their practices.

During the site visit, Dr. Westmoreland and the [GENI leadership](#) reviewed activities that they disseminated to medical students, primary care residents and practicing physicians throughout Indiana. Site visitors also learned about GENI's methods of teaching geriatrics content, relationship-centered care, teaching skills and office-based quality improvement directly from practicing physicians, residents, medical students and the GENI Council of Elders. A focal point of the visit was a discussion concerning potential ideas and plans for future dissemination, sustainability and evaluation of the program after the grant funding ends.

## PUBLICATIONS

Wolinsky FD, Miller TR, Malmstrom TK, Miller JP, Schootman M, Andresen EM, **Miller DK**. [Self-Rated Health : Changes, Trajectories, and Their Antecedents Among African Americans](#). J Aging Health. 2008 Mar;20(2):143-158.

Kerse N, **Weiner M**. CVD risk in later life a grey area. New Zealand Doctor. 2008. Feb 27:18.

Campbell KH, Dale W, Stankus N, **Sachs GA**. [Older adults and chronic kidney disease decision making by primary care physicians: A scholarly review and research agenda](#). J Gen Intern Med. 2008 Mar;23(3):329-36.

**Stewart JC**, Janicki-Deverts D, Muldoon MF, Kamarck TW. [Depressive Symptoms Moderate the Influence of Hostility on Serum Interleukin-6 and C-Reactive Protein](#). Psychosom Med. 2008 Feb;70(2):197-204.

Given B, Given CW, Sikorskii A, Jeon S, McCorkle R, **Champion V**, Decker D. [Establishing mild, moderate, and severe scores for cancer-related symptoms: How consistent and clinically meaningful are interference-based severity cut-points?](#) J Pain Symptom Manage. 2008 Feb;35(2):126-35.

**Farlow MR**, Cummings J. [A modern hypothesis: The distinct pathologies of dementia associated with Parkinson's disease versus Alzheimer's disease](#). Dement Geriatr Cogn Disord. 2008 Mar 3;25(4):301-8.

## IU Geriatrics Hosts Visiting Professor Dr. R. Sean Morrison



L to R: **Chris Callahan, MD**, R. Sean Morrison, MD, **Greg Sachs, MD**, **Alexia Torke, MD, MS**.

IU Geriatrics hosted Visiting Professor R. Sean Morrison, MD on March 11-12, 2008 and charted a very active schedule during his visit. Dr. Morrison met with faculty, researchers and administration from IU Geriatrics, Clarian Health, School of Nursing, Regenstrief Institute, Charles Warren Fairbanks Center for Medical Ethics, and the Roudebush VA Center of Excellence on Implementing Evidence-Based Medicine.

Dr. Morrison also made three presentations: "The Growth of Palliative Care in the United States" at Medicine Grand Rounds, "Pain, Delirium, and Functional Recovery in Geriatric Orthopedic Patients" at Regenstrief Institute Work in Progress, and "Ethics and Pain Management" at the Charles Warren Fairbanks Fellowship in Medical Ethics Seminar.

Dr. Morrison is director of the National Palliative Care Research Center, vice-chair for research at the Brookdale Department of Geriatrics and Adult Development, director of research at the Hertzberg Palliative Care Institute and Hermann Merkin Professor of Palliative Care at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York.

His research focuses on decision making at the end of life, pain and symptom management in high-risk and medically underserved populations, and quality measures in palliative care. He is an active clinician who cares for healthy older adults and those with serious illness.

Beglinger LJ, **Unverzagt FW**, Beristain X, Kareken D. [An updated version of the Weigl discriminates adults with dementia from those with mild impairment and healthy controls](#). Arch Clin Neuropsychol. 2007 Mar;23(2):149-56.

## PRESENTATIONS

**Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH**, presented “Deciphering Dementia with Concomitant Depression in Long Term Care” in a continuing education symposium at the American Medical Directors Association (AMDA) Annual Symposium held Mar 6-9, 2008, in Salt Lake City, Utah.

**Jesse Stewart, PhD**, presented “A Prospective Evaluation of the Depression-Inflammation Relationship: Is Depression a Cause or a Consequence?” at the 66th Annual Scientific Conference of the American Psychosomatic Society (APS) held March 12-15, 2008, in Baltimore, Maryland. The APS is a worldwide community of scholars and clinicians dedicated to the scientific understanding of the interaction of mind, brain, body and social context in promoting health and contributing to the pathogenesis, course and treatment of disease. The April 2008 (vol. 70, no. 3) [on-line issue of Psychosomatic Medicine](#) will contain the 2008 meeting abstracts.

**Teresa Damush, PhD**, presented “Development of a Post Stroke Self-Management Program” in a paper session on Psychosocial Interventions in Cardiovascular Disease at the 29th Annual Meeting and Scientific Session of the Society of Behavioral Medicine held March 26-29, 2008 in San Diego, California. **Linda Williams, MD**, an IUCAR affiliated scientist, was a co-author. Dr. Damush is the Implementation Research Coordinator for the VA Stroke Quality Enhancement Research Initiative (QUERI) and Dr. Williams is the Research Coordinator.

In 1998, Veterans Affairs Health Services Research and Development Service launched the VA QUERI with the goal of translating research results into approaches to improve patient care and systems efficiency and to document the effects of these mechanisms on patients and on cost. The mission of the Stroke QUERI is to reduce the risk of stroke and to obtain the best possible outcomes for veterans who suffer a stroke.

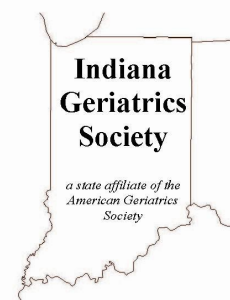
**Michael Weiner, MD, MPH**, presented “The role of information systems in measuring and improving quality for older patients” at the meeting of EPIQ (Effective Practice, Informatics & Quality Improvement), at the School of Population Health, University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand, on March 27, 2008. [EPIQ](#) (Effective Practice, Informatics & Quality Improvement) supports evidence-based practice, health informatics and quality improvement initiatives in the health and disability support sectors and is a collaboration of academics, clinicians and other health sector professionals in the Auckland region.

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

IU Geriatrics was represented by faculty, staff and fellows at the American Medical Directors Association (AMDA) Annual Symposium held Mar 6-9, 2008, in Salt Lake City, Utah. Attending was faculty member **Arif Nazir, MD**, Geriatrics Academic Coordinator **April Brown, BA**, and Geriatrics Fellows **Sergey Gorbachev, MD**, and **Vijaya Sudanagunta, MD**. AMDA is the professional association of medical directors and physicians practicing in the long term care continuum dedicated to excellence in patient care by providing education, advocacy, information, and professional development.

**Michael Sha, MD**, presented “The Future of Primary Care for Older Adults” as the keynote speaker at the 2nd Annual Spring Conference dinner meeting of the of the Indiana Geriatrics Society held on March 13, 2008. Dr. Sha is assistant professor of clinical medicine at Indiana University School of Medicine and is a staff physician and geriatrician at the Roudebush VA Medical Center.

Dr. Sha has been active at the local level serving as chair for the Health and Public Policy Committee for the Indiana Geriatrics Society, as a Trustee for the Indiana State Medical Association, and as a Member of the Therapeutics Committee for the Indiana Medicaid Drug Utilization Review Board. He is the Governor-elect for the Indiana Chapter of the American College of Physicians.



**Steve Counsell, MD**, was a Visiting Scholar in Geriatrics at the University of California - San Francisco, on March 25, 2008. Dr. Counsell met with individual faculty members, including Ken Covinsky, MD, MPH and Chief, Seth Landefeld, MD. He also met with the San Francisco General Hospital Chief of Staff, the Chief Nursing Officer, and ACE Unit team to discuss applications of the GRACE model to care transitions from hospital to home and ensuring ongoing primary care for older patients. In a session with faculty and fellows, he shared his perspective on the clinical domain of geriatrics relative to primary care and hospital medicine, and how this has influenced the development of clinical services at the IU Medical Center.

**Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH**, discussed the Health Aging Brain Center as a guest on the March 30th edition of [Sound Medicine](#), a radio program produced by the Indiana University School of Medicine and WFYI Public Radio. The program is a forum for health issues affecting local communities and educates and encourages listeners to make sound health decisions. Search and listen to past shows in multiple streamed formats in the [Sound Medicine Web archives](#).



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The IU Geriatrics Conferences on April 9 and 30 are canceled due to national meetings of the Society for General Internal Medicine and the American Geriatrics Society.

The Indiana Alzheimer Disease Center symposia on Mild Cognitive Impairment will be held April 18 and 19, 2008, at the Indiana Historical Society. The day-one theme is "An Evolving Concept in Research and Clinical Practice." Day two features the Second Annual Martin Family Alzheimer Disease Symposium, "Impact on the Patient and Family." Details and registration are available at <http://cme.medicine.iu.edu/2/scripts/prodView.asp?id=29963>.

Mark your calendars for October 10, 2008 for the Indiana Geriatrics Society 2nd Annual Fall Conference which will be held in Nashville, Indiana. Come to the conference and enjoy the fall colors by staying the weekend. For IGS membership information, [email](#) or call Geriatrics Program Administrator **Kathy Frank, RN, DNS** at 317-630-8183.

To subscribe, unsubscribe or send e-news comments, call 317-423-5586, or email [Nancy Buchanan](#) or [Kathy Frank, RN, DNS](#).