

IU GERIATRICS e-news for APRIL 2008

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

AWARD

Dr. Beck Named House Call Doctor of the Year



Congratulations, Dr. Beck!

[Read AAHCP press release.](#)

Dr. Robin A. Beck continues to receive [accolades](#) for her leadership and service in the House Calls for Seniors program. The most recent honor came to Dr. Beck when the [American Academy of Home Care Physicians](#) awarded its prestigious Eric Baron House Call Doctor of the Year Award to her at their Annual Scientific Meeting held on April 30, 2008, in Washington, DC. The award is the highest honor bestowed by the Academy, an organization of physicians and other home care professionals dedicated to promoting the art, science and practice of medicine in the home.

In a nomination letter to the AAHCP, **Dr. Steve Counsell** noted that House Calls for Seniors was Dr. Beck's passion when she joined the IU faculty in 1999. She proceeded to develop and implement the program as part of Senior Care at Wishard to better serve the most frail and homebound elderly in our community who were unable to attend a Wishard health center or otherwise access a physician for their primary care needs.

"Dr. Beck is able to communicate with her patients in an extraordinary way by helping them understand the life process of aging while promoting health and quality of life," added Dr. Counsell.

Since 1988, the AAHCP has served the needs of thousands of physicians and related professionals and agencies interested in improving care of patients in the home. According to the Academy, for every elderly person in a nursing home, there are three more people equally fragile and infirm living at home.

Dr. Hamidi Completes Geriatric Medicine Fellowship

IU Geriatrics hosted an April luncheon to celebrate with **Dr. Sara Hamidi** as she completed the [Geriatric Medicine Fellowship Program](#). Dr. Hamidi chose geriatric medicine training to complement her IU Family Medicine Residency training and will apply what she learned at Indiana University to her work as a primary care physician and geriatrician at the Physicians Medical Group, a multi-specialty clinic in rural Grants Pass, Oregon.

Dr. Hamidi is pictured receiving an IU School of Medicine certificate stating she "faithfully and honorably discharged the duties of the position" from the Geriatric Medicine Fellowship Director **Glenda Westmoreland, MD, MPH**.



Congratulations, Dr. Hamidi!

IU-CAR Publishes Annual Report

The Indiana University Center for Aging Research has published its 2006-2007 Annual Report entitled "The Economics of Research."

A message from Center Director Dr. Chris Callahan recalls remarks by IU-CAR's Inaugural Visiting Professor Dr. George Maddox from Duke University. His 1997 lecture identified IU-CAR as a "Center with a Future." The report confirms this prediction by describing the ten years of economic growth as well as the Center's success in recruiting faculty geriatrics researchers to Indiana University.

The annual report is available online at <http://iucar.iu.edu/news/annual2007.pdf>.

IU GERIATRICS



PUBLICATIONS

Damush TM, Jia H, Ried LD, Qin H, Cameon R, Plue L, **Williams LS**. [Case-finding algorithm for post-stroke depression in the veterans health administration](#). Int J Geriatr Psychiatry. 2008 May;23(5):517-22.

Sands LP, Xu H, **Weiner M**, Rosenman MB, Craig BA, Thomas J 3rd. [Comparison of Resource Utilization for Medicaid Dementia Patients Using Nursing Homes Versus Home and Community Based Waivers for Long-Term Care](#). Med Care. 2008 Apr;46(4):449-453.

Farlow MR, Miller ML, Pejovic V. [Treatment Options in Alzheimer's Disease: Maximizing Benefit, Managing Expectations](#). Dement Geriatr Cogn Disord. 2008 Apr 3;25(5):408-22.

Rawl SM, **Champion VL**, Scott LL, Zhou H, Monahan P, Ding Y, Loehrer P, Skinner CS. [A randomized trial of two print interventions to increase colon cancer screening among first-degree relatives](#). Patient Educ Couns. 2008 May;71(2):215-27.

PRESENTATIONS

The [31st Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting](#) was held April 9-12, 2008, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The theme, "Translating Research into Practice: Enhancing Education, Patient Care, and Community Health," corresponds with the historic National Institutes of Health initiative to transform clinical and translational research so that new scientific advances can be rapidly applied to real world medical practice.



Attending the annual meeting from IU Geriatrics were **Drs. Chris Callahan, MD, Steve Counsell, MD, Greg Sachs, MD, and Alexia Torke, MD, MS**.

Dr. Callahan was a speaker at the Management and Training Leadership Institute workshop, "Building Clinical Research in General Internal Medicine" sponsored by the Association of Chiefs of General Internal Medicine and held just prior to the SGIM annual meeting.

Dr. Torke made an oral abstract presentation, "Do physicians rely on patient wishes to make surrogate decisions in the hospital?"

Chris Callahan, MD, was a visiting professor at the Division of Geriatrics and Nutritional Sciences and the Department of Medicine at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri on April 16-17, 2008. He presented Medicine Grand Rounds entitled "Collaborative Care to Improve Outcomes for Older Adults" and met with faculty about their research projects.

A contingent of IU Center for Aging Research Center Scientists and Affiliated Scientists were speakers at the Indiana Alzheimer Disease Center's "Symposia on Mild Cognitive Impairment" on April 18-19, 2008, in Indianapolis. The topics and speakers included:

- Mild Cognitive Impairment: Is It Treatable or Not? by **Dr. Martin Farlow**
- Early Recognition of Mild Cognitive Impairment: Challenges in General Practice Settings by **Dr. Chris Callahan**
- Can We Maintain and Improve Cognitive Skills? by **Dr. Frederick Unverzagt**
- Caregiving for the Long Haul by **Dr. Mary Guerriero Austrom**

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Steve Counsell, MD, attended a conference on "Predictive Modeling Optimization" March 26-27, 2008, in San Francisco. He also attended a workshop titled, "Achieving and Demonstrating ROI: Quantifying the Clinical and Economic Value of Predictive Modeling." Predictive modeling is increasingly being used by health plans to identify potential under- and over-utilizers and to target high opportunity individuals for disease and care management interventions. This is of particular interest in applications related to the [GRACE model](#) of geriatrics care management.

Ella Bowman, MD, PhD, met with the Geriatrics Student Interest Group at IU School of Medicine last on April 22, 2008, to talk over lunch about "How to Approach End-of-Life Discussions with Patients." It was well received by the group and launched several ideas they have asked Dr. Bowman to present in the future.

Douglas K. Miller, MD is the geriatric representative to the [Regenstrief Center for Healthcare Improvement and Research](#). RCHIR was founded in July 2007 by the Regenstrief Institute to serve the current and looming demand for data management, retrieval, and analyses. The center enhances the content and use of clinical data repositories for quality improvement and epidemiological research. RCHIR is a center within the Regenstrief Institute that brings together the complementary expertise of *users and producers* of information critical to care improvement and research. The executive director is Bill Tierney, MD.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Tatiana Foroud, PhD](#), will present “Genomewide Association Studies: What are they and should I be doing them?” at the IU Geriatrics Conference on Wednesday, May 21, 2008, from 7:30-8:30am in Wishard’s T2008 A&B. Dr. Foroud is the P. Michael Conneally Professor of Medical and Molecular Genetics and the director of the Division of Hereditary Diseases and Family Studies at the IU School of Medicine.

Frederick W. Unverzagt, PhD, will present “Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI)” at the IU Geriatrics Conference on Wednesday, June 4, 2008, from 7:30-8:30am in Wishard’s T2008 A&B. Dr. Unverzagt is Associate Professor of Psychology in the Department of Psychiatry and Director of the Neuropsychology Clinic in Psychiatry at the IU School of Medicine. Visit [his web page](#) for information about his current teaching, clinical, and research activities.

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