

CREIGHTON MEDICINE

CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

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The Sleep Disorders Center at Creighton University

The Sleep Disorders Center at Creighton University offers comprehensive sleep disorder evaluations, testing, follow up and treatment management. The Center has two board certified sleep medicine specialists (Dr. Naresh A. Dewan – Medical Director and Dr. Saiprakash B. Venkateshiah) and a four-bed state-of-the-art testing facility. Sleep medicine evaluation requests are generally responded to within a few weeks, sometimes days, of the initial date of service.

When a patient is referred to the Sleep Disorders Center, he/she undergoes a sleep medicine evaluation and testing as determined by the sleep specialist. The sleep medicine specialist discusses treatment options with the patient and initiates appropriate treatment. The Center follows the patient as needed and keeps the referring physician apprised of clinical findings and progress. A clinic nurse coordinates patient care and treatments, and serves as a contact and resource for patient issues and concerns. The Sleep Disorders Center has a sleep medicine clinic generally on Tuesdays and Fridays of each week.



Front Row: Saiprakash B. Venkateshiah, M.D.; J. Clayton Campbell, M.D.; Naresh A. Dewan, M.D.
Back Row: Dan Schuller, M.D.; Tammy O. Wichman, M.D.; Lee E. Morrow, M.D.

The Sleep Medicine Clinic is on the third floor of the Creighton University Medical Center hospital, Suite 3820, in the Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine.

Sleep medicine testing most often includes a polysomnogram (PSG), which is an all night sleep study. The Creighton University Sleep Disorders Center provides PSG sleep testing in the Creighton Cardiac Center, across the street from the Creighton University Medical Center hospital. The Sleep Disorders Center is committed to making the patient as comfortable as possible during sleep testing and uses Sleep Number adjustable beds and memory foam pillows. The sleep testing rooms are nicely decorated and designed to yield a relaxing environment for the patient. The sleep technologists provide a high level of patient care, monitoring, and titration expertise. Preliminary sleep study results are generally available within one day of sleep testing, allowing the Sleep Disorders Center to

coordinate patient care and treatment more quickly. Sleep testing is generally available Monday through Thursday nights, with the option to expand as the service grows.

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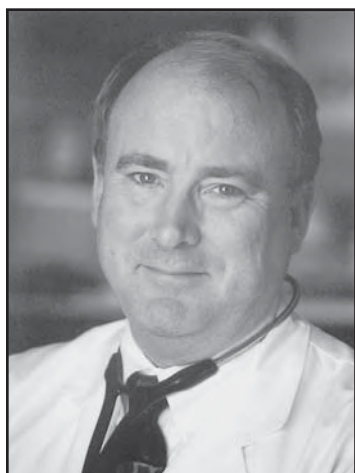
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From the Chair



Eugene Rich, M.D.

As I write this message in mid-June, my wife Elaine and I are planning our September move to Washington, D.C. where I will take a yearlong sabbatical as a Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellow. This past April 15th, I completed 10 years as Chair of Medicine at Creighton, and sometime in the Fall, a new individual will assume the leadership of this great Department. Over the past decade, we've advanced our programs in education, research, and clinical practice, with many of our accomplishments

described in the various publications of Creighton Medicine. Rather than recap all those now, I think you might enjoy the lines below. At the Department's Holiday Party last December, the Administration staff asked that I conclude the karaoke competition by singing the great Sinatra Classic, "My Way." Accordingly, I adapted those lyrics to the event by adding personal reflections and a few "inside jokes." I hope you find it amusing; I named it, "Our Way."

And now, my term is near
And so I face, the final budget...
My friends, I'll say it clear,
I'll tell my tale, I'll share this nugget.
I've worked days that are long
I've traveled each and every airport,
And scary storms I've fought- hey- I'm from Gulfport.

Mistakes, I've made my share,
Perhaps there're some that you might mention...
I did the best I could, and hope that will you give exemptions,
I planned each MBM, sought extra funds on every byway
And more, much more than this, I learned the Creighton way.

I've recruited, wined and dined,
I've had my share of V Mertz crab cakes
And now, all chiefs in place, I can relax, enjoy their antics
To think, I did all that
And you may note in a rather shy way
No oh no not me, did I do it my way?

For what is a chair, what has he got?
If not his colleagues, then he has naught,
I learned from you, enjoyed your success,
And pride in you I have excess
The record shows that I didn't doze, but we did it our way.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E.C.R." with a stylized flourish.

Eugene Rich, M.D.
Tenet Professor and
Chair Department of Medicine

Google Scholar and the Medical Literature

by **Richard Jizba**

HEAD OF REFERENCE SERVICES
HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY

What is Google Scholar?

Google Scholar is a specialized internet search engine created by Google, one of the most popular search services on the web. Google Scholar provides a simple search interface for searching the scholarly literature. It searches across all disciplines and many types of publications including articles, theses, books, reprints and preprints, technical reports and scholarly web pages. Google Scholar provides extensive coverage of the medical literature because it includes records from the PubMed (Medline) database.

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Creighton
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Medical Center

Research on Vitamin D Physiology: An Endocrinology Fellow's Story

by **Laura A. G. Armas, M.D.**

ENDOCRINOLOGY FELLOW



Laura A. G. Armas, M.D.

I am beginning my second year as a fellow in the Creighton University Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism Program. The program was inaugurated in July 2005, and I am its first trainee; the second fellow will enter this July 2006.

While I was still an Internal Medicine resident, I worked with Dr. Robert P. Heaney, John A. Creighton University Professor, on a clinical research project. We showed that vitamin D₃ (cholecalciferol, the animal form of the vitamin) is more potent than

vitamin D₂ (ergocalciferol, the plant form) in producing a sustained rise in circulating 25-hydroxyvitamin D (this form is the functional indicator of vitamin D status) (see Figure 1). My abstract describing this work was selected for an oral presentation at the 2004 national meeting of The Endocrine Society. That experience solidified my interest in a career as a physician-scientist, with an initial focus on nutrition, bone, and Vitamin D.

After residency, I was able to spend a full year in clinical research with Dr. Heaney before beginning my endocrinology fellowship. We explored the relationship of sun exposure, skin tone, and dermal production of vitamin D. In conjunction with Dr. Christopher Huerter, Associate Professor of Dermatology, we used an ultraviolet light box to provide specific amounts of UVB light to people with a wide range of skin tones and measured the vitamin D response (see Figure 2 on page 4). Because skin pigmentation acts as a natural sunblock, people with darker skin tones require more sun exposure than those with lighter skin tones to achieve equivalent increases in 25-hydroxyvitamin D. My year of research has shown me that there are many questions yet to be answered.

Vitamin D is currently getting a great deal of attention, even in the popular press. New research is showing that deficiency is associated with autoimmune diseases and some cancers. For a long time, we have known of the classic action of vitamin D in promoting intestinal calcium absorption, but recently vitamin D receptors have been found on almost every cell in the body. This finding has led to a search for the effects of vitamin D on other systems.

In humans, vitamin D is derived mainly by the action ultraviolet light on exposed skin to convert a precursor into vitamin D, which is then converted to 25-hydroxyvitamin D by the liver. This metabolite is then converted by 1- α -hydroxylase to form 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D, the most active vitamin D metabolite. In the kidney, the enzyme 1- α -hydroxylase produces 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D for systemic

use. We now know that many other cells, also equipped with this enzyme, can produce this active metabolite for their own local (autocrine) use. The discovery that 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D is produced locally has sparked a huge interest in its effects on organs and systems other than bone.

Vitamin D deficiency is a common problem among persons who are elderly, ill, avoid the sun, are on certain medications, or have dark skin pigmentation. The precursor of vitamin D is decreased in the skin of elderly persons, so their capacity to make vitamin D is reduced. As noted earlier, dark skin pigmentation is a natural sunblock that limits the access of UVB rays to the dermal precursor. At northern latitudes, the angle of sunlight allows the atmosphere to filter out UVB rays during winter months. In our UVB study, 95 percent of our healthy, young subjects – who were not taking any vitamin D supplements – were below optimum levels of 25-hydroxyvitamin D in the winter months.

In the U.S., very little vitamin D is obtained from food, largely because few Americans consume much fatty fish. Milk is fortified

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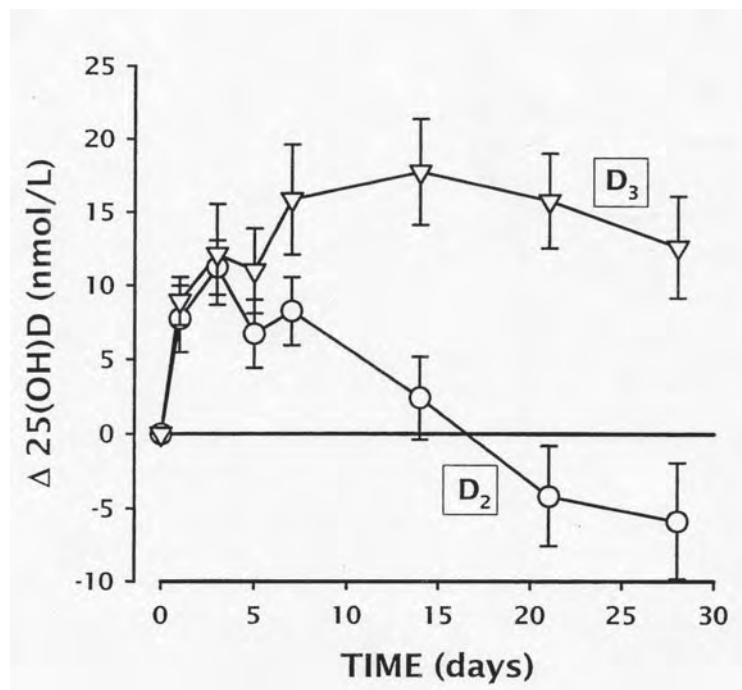


Figure 1: Time course of the rise in serum 25(OH) vitamin D following a single oral dose of 50,000 IU of either cholecalciferol (vitamin D₃) or ergocalciferol (vitamin D₂), in two groups of 10 normal men each. Error bars are 1 SEM. The zero-change line incorporates a correction for the seasonal rise in 25(OH)D occurring at the time this study was performed. (To convert from nmol/L to ng/mL, multiply by 0.4.) Copyright Robert P. Heaney, 2004. Used with permission.

The Sleep Disorders Center at Creighton University

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For referring physicians wanting to schedule sleep testing through the Creighton University Sleep Disorders Center, but who do not want evaluation and management in the Sleep Medicine Clinic, sleep testing only is available by specifying “sleep study only” at the time of the request for service. Otherwise, referrals to the Creighton University Sleep Disorders Center include evaluation, testing, follow up and management of the sleep disorder.

To schedule a sleep medicine evaluation or testing, please contact (402) 449-4486, option 1, and/or fax a Sleep Medicine Evaluation form to (402) 280-5256. To obtain a copy of the Sleep Medicine Evaluation form, or for more information, please call (402) 449-4486, option 1. Summarized below are potential indications for sleep study-PSG and potential benefits of nasal CPAP treatment.

Potential Indications for Polysomnography and Sleep Study

1. Suspected sleep apnea
 - (a) snoring
 - (b) breathing pauses at night/snoring/gasping
 - (c) excessive daytime sleepiness
 - (d) nonrestful sleep
2. Narcolepsy
3. Parasomnias
4. Medical conditions associated with sleep apnea
 - (a) hypertension
 - (b) congestive heart failure
 - (c) atrial fibrillation
 - (d) obesity/metabolic syndrome
 - (e) stroke
 - (f) diabetes mellitus
 - (g) gastroesophageal reflux
 - (h) hypothyroidism

Potential Benefits of CPAP Treatment

1. Improved daytime sleepiness
2. Improved sleep quality
3. Improved neurocognitive function
4. Reduced snoring
5. Reduced risk of MVA accidents
6. Reduced nocturnal oxygen desaturation
7. Improved left ventricular function
8. Improved control of:
 - (a) hypertension
 - (b) diabetes – reduced HbA1C
 - (c) GER
 - (d) CHF/atrial fibrillation

Research on Vitamin D Physiology: An Endocrinology Fellow’s Story

Continued from page 3

with vitamin D, but at a level of only about 400 IU/quart. Also, medications such as steroids and anticonvulsants can interfere with the metabolism of Vitamin D.

For clinical practice, those with risk factors for vitamin D deficiency should have their 25-hydroxyvitamin D levels measured. It is important to note that 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D is not a useful indicator of vitamin D status. An emerging consensus indicates that the optimal level of 25-hydroxyvitamin D is at least 32 ng/mL.

More and more experts are recommending increased vitamin D intakes. A vitamin D3 supplement of 800 to 1,000 IU/day seems to maintain adequate vitamin D status in most individuals.

For more information, please contact Laura Armas, M.D. at (402) 280-4241 or via email larmas@creighton.edu.



Figure 2: Ultraviolet light box used to provide a specific amount of UVB light.

Division News

Division of Allergy/Immunology

Submitted by **Thomas B. Casale, M.D.**

Ongoing Clinical Research Activities

Pharmaxis (Protocol DPM-A-305), A Phase III Multicenter Study to Demonstrate the Sensitivity of Aridol (Mannitol) As Compared with Methacholine Challenge to Predict Bronchial Hyperresponsiveness as Manifested By a Positive Exercise Challenge in Subjects Presenting with Signs and Symptoms Suggestive of Asthma But Without a Definitive Diagnosis. For more information, please contact the Principal Investigator, **Thomas B. Casale, M.D.**, or the nurse coordinator, Jean Kessler, RN at (402) 280-5965.

Aperon – Monitoring the Fractional Concentration of Exhaled Nitric Oxide (FENO) in Uncontrolled Asthma Before and After Steroid Therapy Using the Aperon NO Analyzer. For more information, please contact the Principal Investigator, **Thomas B. Casale, M.D.**, or the nurse coordinator, Jean Kessler, RN at (402) 280-5965.

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp. – The Effect of Xolair on Inhibiting Leukotriene and Cytokine (IL-4 and IL-13) Release From Blood Basophils. For more information, please contact the Principal Investigator, **Robert G. Townley, M.D.**, or the nurse coordinator, Lori Mahon, RN at (402) 280-5968.

GlaxoSmithKline (ADA10355) – A Multicenter Randomized Double Blind Triple Dummy Placebo-Controlled Parallel Group Four Week Study Assessing the Efficacy of Fluticasone Propionate Aqueous Nasal Spray 200 mcg QD versus Montelukast 10 mg QD in Adolescent and Adult Asthma and Seasonal Allergic Rhinitis Who Are Receiving Advair Diskus® 100/50 mcg BID or Placebo BID. For more information, please contact the Principal Investigator, **Robert G. Townley, M.D.**, or the nurse coordinator, Lori Mahon, RN at (402) 280-5968.

Novartis Pharmaceuticals (CIGE025AUS23) – A 26 Week Randomized, Double-Blind, Parallel-Group, Placebo Controlled Multicenter Study to Evaluate the Effect of Xolair (omalizumab) On Improving the Tolerability of Specific Immunotherapy in Patients with Persistent Allergic Asthma. For more information, please contact the Principal Investigator, **Thomas B. Casale, M.D.**, or the nurse coordinator, Jean Kessler, RN at (402) 280-5965.

Dyspnea and Obesity in African-American Females. For more information, please contact the Principal Investigator, **Jeffrey R. Stokes, M.D.**, or the nurse coordinator, Jean Kessler, RN at (402) 280-5965.

Presentations

Thomas B. Casale, M.D.

Anti-IgE Monoclonal Antibodies Imparts Safety and Efficacy for Allergen Immunotherapy. Bay Area Allergy Society, San Francisco, CA, January 19, 2006.

National Allergy/Immunology Coalition – FIT Symposium. AAAA&I Annual Meeting, Miami Beach, FL, March 3, 2006.

Targeting A Single Molecule Is Effective In Asthma Treatment. Pro/Con Debate with Rebuttal, at the AAAA&I Annual Meeting, Miami Beach, FL, March 7, 2006.

Omalizumab and Immunotherapy: A New Treatment Paradigm? Presentation at Pediatric Grand Rounds, Arkansas Children's Hospital, Little Rock, AR, April 4, 2006.

Role of IgE in Inflammation and Asthma. Presentation at ARC Training Seminar, April 28, 2006, CUMC, Omaha, NE.

Anti-IgE Therapy: A Practical Approach. Presentation at ARC Training Seminar, April 28, 2006.

New Insights Into the Use of Anti-IgE Therapy for the Treatment of Allergic Disorders. Presentation at the University of Iowa Asthma conference, Iowa City, IA, May 5, 2006.

Robert G. Townley, M.D.

Talking to Patients About Asthma, Allergy and Anti-IgE Therapy. Presentation at ARC Training Seminar, April 28, 2006, CUMC, Omaha, NE.

Againdra Bewtra, M.D.

Practical Issues in the Office Setting and Managed Care. Presentation at the ARC Training Seminar, April 28, 2006, CUMC, Omaha, NE.

Jeffrey R. Stokes, M.D.

Asthma: The Variability of Disease and Management Issues for the Difficult to Control Asthma Patient. Presentation at the ARC Training Seminar, April 28, 2006, CUMC, Omaha, NE.

Interpreting RAST Results. Presentation at the ARC Training Seminar, April 28, 2006, CUMC, Omaha, NE.

Publications

Brownell, J., Lin, H., **Bewtra, A., Townley, R., Casale, T.B.**: Necrotizing Pneumonia with Questionable Lung Mass in a 59 Year Old Male. *Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol* 2006; 96(1):116-121.

Stokes, J., Fenstedt, E., **Casale, T.B.**: Managing Antihistamine Impairment in Patients With Allergic Rhinitis. *Allergy and Asthma Proc* 2006; 27(1):12-16.

Busse, W., **Casale, T.B.**, Dykewicz, M., Meltzer, E., Bird, S., Hustad, C., Grant, E., Zeldin, R.: Efficacy of Montelukast During the Allergy Season in Patients with Chronic Asthma and Seasonal Aeroallergen Sensitivity. *Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol* 2006; 96(1): 60-68.

Casale, T.B., Busse, W., Kline, J., Ballas, Z., Moss, M., **Townley, R.**, Mokhtarani, M., Sefert-Margolis, V., Asare, A., Bateman, K., Deniz, Y, and the Immune Tolerance Network Group. Omalizumab Pretreatment Decreases Acute Reactions Following Rush Immunotherapy For Ragweed-Induced Seasonal Allergic Rhinitis. *J Allergy Clin Immunol* 2006;17:134-40.

Clark, J., Chiang, D., **Casale, T.B.**: Omalizumab in the Treatment of Allergic Respiratory Disease. (In Press)

Stokes, J., Casale, T.B., Allergy Immunotherapy for Primary Care Physicians. *Am J Med* (In Press)

Parks, K., **Casale, T.B.**: Anti-IgE Monoclonal Antibody Administered With Immunotherapy. *Allergy & Allergy Proceedings* 2006; 27:S33-S36.

Bateman, E., Karpel, J., **Casale, T.B.**, Wenzel, S., Algatt-Bergstrom, P., Kundu, S., Banerji, D.: Ciclesonide Reduces the Need for Oral Steroid Use in Adult Patients with Severe Persistent Asthma. *Chest* (In Press)

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Division News

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Book Chapters

Stokes, J., Casale, T.B.: Urticaria and Angioedema. In: Oski's Pediatrics: Principles and Practice, 4th Edition; 2410-2416. J.A. McMillan, C., DeAngelis, R.D. Feigin, and J.B., Warshaw (Eds.) Philadelphia, PA, J.B. Lippincott Co.

Frew, A.J., Golden, D. B.K., **Casale, T.B.:** Immunotherapy. In: Allergy – Third Edition, S.T. Holgate, L.M. Lichtenstein, and M. Church (Eds.) Elsevier, London (In Press)

Hopp, R.J., Townley, R.G. Chapter 1: The Origins and Characteristics of Asthma. In: Bronchial Asthma: A Guide to Practical Understanding and Treatment, 5th Ed., edited by M. Eric Gershwin and Timothy Albertson. Pp. 3-28. Humana Press, Totowa, NJ, 2006.

Abstracts

Klunker, S., Francis, J., **Casale, T.B.**, Durham, S.: Anti-IgE Therapy Inhibits IgE-Facilitated Allergen Presentation and Increases the Efficacy of Ragweed Immunotherapy. JACI 2006, 117(2):S89.

Casale, T.B., Kessler, J., Romero, F.A.: Safety of Intranasal Toll-4 Receptor Agonist CRX-675 in Allergic Rhinitis. Proceedings of the American Thoracic Society, 2006, p.A574.

Casale, T.B., Romero, F.A., Mahon, L., **Bewtra, A., Stokes, J., Hopp, R.:** Intranasal, Non-Inhaled CO2 Provides Rapid Relief of Seasonal Allergic Rhinitis. JACI, 2006;17(2):S261.

Seyfert-Margolis, V., **Casale, T.B.**, Asare, A., Wang, R.S.: Cytokine and Chemokine Gene Expression Monitoring In A Ragweed Allergy Clinical Trial with Omalizumab Pre-Treatment. JACI 2006;117(2):S263.

Romero, F.A., Waggoner, D.L., Chiang, D.T., Clark, J., **Hopp, R., Townley, R., Casale, T.B.:** Relationship Between Physician Diagnosed Asthma, eNO, and Measures of Airway Hyperresponsiveness. JACI 2006;117(2):S2.

Parks, K., Hassaballa, A., Anderson, D., Hu, Q., **Casale, T.B.**, Swanson, P.: Transgenic Mice Expressing Catalytically Inactive RAG-1 Exhibit Hypogammaglobulinemia and Altered B-cell Development, but Not Autoreactivity. JACI 2006;117(2):S100.

Other Activities

Thomas B. Casale, M.D. has been elected President-Elect of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology in March 2006.

Division of Cardiology

Submitted by **Syed Mohiuddin, M.D.**

Web Site: <http://thecardiaccenter.creighton.edu>

Cardiology Events

The Cardiac Center sponsored the 21st annual UNO Women's Walk on April 22nd. The UNO Women's Walk is the primary means of financial support for women's athletics programs at UNO. Representatives from The Cardiac Center distributed heart health information and promotional items to more than 1,500 walkers who participated.

The Cardiac Center and CUMC also sponsored the 2006 American Heart Association Heart Walk on May 6th at Chalco Hills Recreation Area. Representatives from The Cardiac Center distributed heart health information to the 3,000+ walkers who participated in this year's event.

The Cardiac Center continues its commitment to education by sponsoring health fairs throughout the community. Major events included the ICAN (Institute for Career Advancement Needs) Women's Leadership Conference, First Data Resources, Red Oak Hospital Health Fair, the UNO Women's Walk and the American Heart Association's Heart Walk.

The Sixth Annual Vincent Runco, Jr., M.D. Visiting Scholar Program was held at The Cardiac Center on Wednesday, April 5th. The event featured a Grand Rounds presentation titled "New Concepts in Valvular Heart Disease" by Thomas M. Bashore, M.D., Professor of Medicine and Director of the Fellowship Training Program at Duke Medical Center.

New Faculty



Nancy K. Koster, M.D.

Nancy K. Koster, M.D. joined the Cardiology Division on July 1, 2006 as an Assistant Professor of Medicine. Dr. Koster graduated cum laude from Creighton University School of Medicine in 1999. She completed a residency in Internal Medicine in 2002 and served as a Chief Resident for the Internal Medicine Program for one year. She then completed a Cardiovascular fellowship at Creighton University Medical Center in 2006. Dr. Koster is board certified in Internal Medicine.

Education News

Aryan Mooss, M.D. has stepped down as the Director of Cardiovascular Research and the Fellowship Training Program positions effective July 1, 2006. **Claire Hunter, M.D.** will assume the responsibility as the Director of the Cardiovascular Fellowship Training Program. **Nancy Koster, M.D.** will assume the responsibilities of the Resident Education Program and will serve as the Assistant Director of the Cardiovascular Fellowship Program. **Stephanie M. Maciejewski, Pharm.D.**, will serve as the Administrative Director of the Research Program. Faculty research responsibility will be shared by **Michael Del Core, M.D.** as the Director of Interventional Research and **Antonio Reyes, M.D.** as Director of Clinical Trials.

The Cardiovascular Fellowship program welcomes four new fellows in July 2006: **Drs. Aaron Ford, Jacob Sam Koruth, Ann Narmi and Ruby Satpathy.** Drs. Ford, Narmi and Satpathy graduated from the Creighton University School of Medicine Internal Medicine Residency Program in June 2006. Dr. Koruth completed his residency at St. Vincent Hospital in Worcester, MA in June 2006.

The Interventional Cardiology Fellowship Program welcomes **John William Sype, M.D.** in July 2006. Dr. Sype completed his Cardiovascular Fellowship from Creighton University School of Medicine in June 2006.

Faculty News

Amy J. Arouni, M.D. continues her appointment as President of the Greater Metro Omaha American Heart Association division

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Division News

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board of directors. She is halfway through her two-year term. Dr. Arouni oversees the operations and projects of the local chapter of the American Heart Association. She is involved in overseeing revenue generation, board involvement in local activities, educational projects, board development, advocacy at a local and state level, and acts as a spokesperson as needed.

Michael G. Del Core, M.D. was nominated for the Creighton University School of Medicine 2006 Golden Apple Award.

Congratulations to the following 2006 School of Medicine Honorees from Cardiology:

Emeriti Promotion

Hugh S. Levin, M.D.

25 Year Faculty Service Award

Tom T. Hee, M.D.

Tom V. Pagano, M.D.

Mark A. Williams, Ph.D.

Mark P. Woodruff, M.D.

Publications

Xuedong Shen, Mark J. Holmberg, John Sype, Claire Hunter, Aryan N. Mooss, and Syed M. Mohiuddin. "Real-Time Three-Dimensional Echocardiography in Diagnosis of Right Ventricular Pseudoaneurysm after Pacemaker Implantation"; *Echocardiography*, 2006, Vol 23, Pages 240-243.

Barry R. Davis, MD, PhD; Linda B. Piller, MD, MPH; Jeffrey A. Cutler, MD, MPH; Curt Furberg, MD, PhD; Kay Dunn, PhD; Stanley Franklin, MD; David Goff, MD, PhD; Frans Leenen, MD, PhD; **Syed Mohiuddin, MD**; Vasilios Papademetriou, MD; Michael Proschan, PhD; Allan Ellsworth, PharmD; John Golden, MD; Pedro Colon, MD; Richard Crow, MD; for the Antihypertensive and Lipid-Lowering Treatment to Prevent Heart Attack Trial (ALLHAT) Collaborative Research Group; "Role of Diuretics in the Prevention of Heart Failure, The Antihypertensive and Lipid-Lowering Treatment to Prevent Heart Attack Trial"; *Circulation*, Vol 113, Issue 18; May 9, 2006, pp2201-2210.

Dhanunjay Lakkireddy, Srilaxmi Valasareddi, Kay Ryschon, Krishnamohan Basarkodu, **Karen Rovang, Syed M. Mohiuddin, Tom Hee**, Robert Schweikert, Patrick Tchou, Bruce Wilkoff, Andrea Natale, **Huagui Li.** "The Impact of Povidone-Iodine Pocket Irrigation Use on Pacemaker and Defibrillator Infections"; *PACE*, Vol. 28, pp 789-794.

Presentations

Arash Aryana, M.D. (Cardiovascular Fellow)

Seasonal and Circannual Variations of Ventricular Dysrhythmias. ACC/Nebraska Chapter Second Annual 2006 Great Plains Cardiovascular Symposium, March 2006. Dr. Aryana won second place honor.

Trans-radial Cardiac Catheterization Is Associated With Shorter Hospital Length of Stay, Less Frequent Vascular Complications. Miami International Revascularization Summit (MIRS) IV Scientific Session, February 2006.

Claire Hunter, M.D.

Management of Congestive Heart Failure; Clinical Update in Internal Medicine; Creighton University Department of Medicine. May 6, 2006.

Syed M. Mohiuddin, M.D.

Intensive Multicomponent Smoking Cessation Intervention Decreases Mortality in Hospitalized High-Risk Cardiac Smokers; American College of Cardiology 55th Annual Scientific Session, Atlanta, GA, March 2006.

Dr. Xueong Shen

Outcome in heart failure and narrow QRS patients with and without left ventricular dyssynchrony. 55th Annual Scientific Sessions of American College of Cardiology, March 2006.

Warfarin therapy initiated before is more beneficial than after transesophageal echocardiography detected left atrial thrombus. 55th Annual Scientific Sessions of American College of Cardiology, March 2006.

Joseph Tuma, M.D. (Cardiovascular Interventional Fellow)

"Complex Coronary Complications" Society for Coronary Angiography & Interventions, Rapid City, SD, May 2006

Mark Williams, Ph.D.

"The non-exercise test: Adenosine, persantine, and dobutamine stress testing." American College of Sports Medicine Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, May 2006

"Exercise: State of the art in exercise as primary prevention and rehabilitation." Cardiovascular Conference-2006, Manhattan, KS, April 2006

"Cardiac rehabilitation and secondary prevention: From guidelines to components to outcomes." Tri-Network Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation Annual Meeting, Omaha, NE, April 2006.

Awards

Tom Pagano, M.D. was selected by the Cardiology Fellows to receive the Educator of the Year 2006 award.

John Schrader, M.D. was selected by The Cardiac Center staff as the Fellow of the Year 2006.

Aryan Mooss, M.D. was honored by The Cardiac Center for his role as the Cardiovascular Fellowship Program Director and the Research Program.

David Cloutier, B.S. was honored by The Cardiac Center for his contributions and dedication to the Research Program.

Clinical Trials

The Black Education And Treatment (BEAT) Hypertension Study will compare the benefit of a comprehensive high blood pressure education and support program to routine health care. All patients will receive an EKG, lab work, and FDA approved high blood pressure medications during the course of the three-year study. For more information, please contact **Syed Mohiuddin, M.D.**, Principal Investigator, or the Creighton Community Health Center Study Coordinator at (402) 558-1574.

The RELY trial studies the efficacy and safety of two blinded doses of dabigatran etexilate with open label warfarin for the prevention of stroke and systemic embolism. Patients with history of chronic atrial fibrillation (AF) or have been newly diagnosed

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Division News

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with AF, plus at least one other risk factor for stroke are eligible to participate. For more information, please contact **Amy Arouni, M.D.**, Principal Investigator, or the Research Pharmacist, Stephanie Maciejewski, Pharm.D., at (402) 280-4292.

The Division is also comparing the safety and efficacy of fenofibric acid and simvastatin combination therapy to fenofibric acid and simvastatin monotherapy in subjects with mixed dyslipidemia. Participants will receive all study-related care, including physical exams, lab tests and study medication free of charge, and may be eligible for a 12-month open-label combination fenofibric acid and simvastatin continuation study. For more information, please contact **Syed Mohiuddin, M.D.**, Principal Investigator, or the Study Coordinator, Sandy Byers, R.N., B.S.N., at (402) 280-4961.

Dermatology

Submitted by **Christopher Huerter, M.D.**

Clinical Trials

Employing Once Daily Use of Topical Adapalene / Benzoyl Peroxide. For more information, please contact the Principal Investigator, **Christopher Huerter, M.D.** or the Study Coordinator, Lori Mahon, R.N. at (402) 280-5968.

Endocrinology

Submitted by **Joann Reynolds**

Web site: <http://osteoporosis.creighton.edu>

Faculty Activities

Robert R. Recker, M.D., has been named associate dean for Research in the School of Medicine at Creighton University. The appointment, made by Cam Enarson, dean of the School of Medicine and vice president for Health Sciences, began on June 1, 2006.

Dr. Recker is an internationally recognized expert in the field of metabolic bone disease. A 1963 graduate of Creighton's School of Medicine, he has served on the school's faculty since 1970, and has served as the head of the ORC since 1973. He is a Master, American College of Physicians, and Fellow, American College of Endocrinology. He is past governor of the Nebraska Chapter of the American College of Physicians and past president of the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research. He also serves on the Scientific Advisory Board of the National Osteoporosis Foundation and chairs its Research Grants Subcommittee. His list of professional publications includes more than 250 original papers, chapters, and monographs that deal with calcium physiology, metabolic bone disease, bone histomorphometry, prevention and treatment of osteoporosis, adaptation of bone to loading, and, more recently, the genetics of bone mass.

General Internal Medicine

Submitted by **Susanne Astley**

Faculty Activities

Theresa Townley, M.D. and **Joann Porter, M.D.** presented a workshop at the Association of Program Directors of Internal

Medicine meeting in Philadelphia, PA entitled, "An Acculturation Curriculum: Orienting International Medical Graduates to an Internal Medicine Residency Program." April 5, 2006

Devin Fox, M.D. was recently named as a fellow in the American College of Physicians. He was also named chairman of the fall scientific session at the Scott Conference Center on the UNO campus. In this role, he will be involved in planning the fall meeting, including arranging for local and national speakers.

Kathryn N. Huggett, Ph.D. and **Erica Cichowski, M.D.** received the "Best New Investigator" Award for the abstract entitled, "Investigation of Students' Attitudes Toward and Confidence in Counseling Patients about Health Promotion Topics," which was presented to the Central Group on Educational Affairs (CGEA) Annual Meeting in Kansas City, MO in March 2006. The CGEA is a regional organization of the AAMC dedicated to promoting research and innovation in medical education.

Conference Activities

2006 Spring Conference Program. Leadership and Scholarship Across the Medical Education Continuum.
March 9-11, 2006

Innovations in Medical Education (IME) Posters

A Student-Facilitated Practice OSCE Initiative

Anna Moranski, B.S., **Kathryn Huggett, Ph.D.**, Amanda Lofgreen, M.S.

Faculty Development: Use of the Standardized Difficult Student Encounter to Develop Faculty's Evaluation Skills

Judith Bell, Ed.D., Eugene Barone, M.D., **John Hurley, M.D.**, **Henry Sakowski, M.D.**

Use of Grand Rounds in the M1 OSCE

Judith Bell, Ed.D., **Erica Cichowski, M.D.**

Using a Student Grand Rounds to Incorporate Evidence-Based Medicine in an Internal Medicine Clerkship

Henry Sakowski, M.D., **Bruce Houghton, M.D.**

Curriculum SIG: Student Input into the Design and Evaluation of Medical School Curriculum: New Student Innovation in Medical Education (Panel Discussion)

Floyd Knoop, Ph.D., **Kathryn N. Huggett, Ph.D.**, Rebecca Armendariz, Stephen Sittnick, Divya Patel, Jamie Frey.

Clinical Skills Curriculum - Development (Small Group Discussion)

Anna Maio, M.D.

Using Interclerkships To Fill Gaps In The Clinical Curriculum (Workshop)

Bruce Houghton, M.D., William B. Jeffries, Ph.D.

Research in Medical Education (RIME) Posters

Does Providing Oral Exam Topics Prior To The Exam Improve Educational Outcomes? (Presentation)

Kathryn N. Huggett, Ph.D., Alfred Fleming, M.D., Amanda Lofgreen, M.S.

RIME Oral Abstract Session: Perspectives on Clinical Education

Investigation of Students' Attitudes Toward and Confidence

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in Counseling Patients about Health Promotion Topics (Presentation)

Kathryn N. Huggett, Ph.D., Erica Cichowski, M.D.

*29th Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting
Los Angeles, CA
April 26-29, 2006*

Workshop

What Chiefs of General Internal Medicine Want When Recruiting a Clinician Educator

Anna Maio, M.D.

Poster

Dyspnea and Chest Pain at Rest

N. Al-Skaf and **M. Davidian**

Varicella Pneumonia in an adult: a rare case; a classic presentation

D. Bhasin, **R. Warriar, B.L. Houghton**, L. Morrow

A Rare Manifestation of Multiple Myeloma

S. Kakani, H. Lazarte, **R. Warriar**

Does Insurance status or chronicity of illness influence sample use among private physicians?

M.S. Monaghan, **E.C. Rich**, R. Warriar, L. Morrow, H. Mary

Splenic Abscess-Rare Presentation of Salmonella Typhi

Y. Reddy, R. Gudavalli, S.K. Thambidorai, **H. Sakowski**

Interest Group

Computer Assisted Learning Interest Group

Henry Sakowski, M.D.

Community Activities

Creighton Family Health Care-South participated in the Cinco de Mayo festival on May 6th by staffing the first aid station from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Twelve Magis students from CUMC were on hand to check blood pressures and BMIs.

In partnership with AHEC, the Nursing school, Pediatrics and Hope Medical Outreach, Creighton Family Health Care-South is providing free bilingual courses in healthy eating and exercise for adolescent patients and their parents

Two internists from our community clinics gave presentations to the Creighton community as part of the University "Walk 100" Wellness program. On March 22nd and 23rd, **Dr. Carolyn Manhart** lectured on "Walking is Good Medicine"—the value of exercise in the prevention and management of hypertension. **Dr. Devin Fox**, gave advice on "How to start an Exercise Program" on March 30th.

On Saturday February 18th, **Dr. Theresa Townley** talked with parents and students at Babe Gomez-Heritage Elementary school on "Healthy Behaviors: How to Get Kids Motivated." This presentation was part of a Childhood Obesity Forum, which was held in conjunction with Hope Medical Outreach.

Infectious Diseases / Omaha VAMC

Submitted by **Marvin Bittner, M.D.**

Faculty Activities

Martha Nielsen, Ph.D. received a \$40,000 grant from the Nebraska Health and Human Services System entitled "Averting Bacterial Pneumonia in the Smoking/Drinking Host." This project will use a rat model of alcohol ingestion and smoke exposure to test two novel therapies designed to prevent invasive pneumococcal pneumonia by decreasing colonization and enhancing mucociliary clearance of the bacteria.

Laurel C. Preheim, M.D. and **Marvin J. Bittner, M.D.** published a chapter on "Other Nontuberculous Mycobacteria and Mycobacterium bovis" in the 5th edition of Tuberculosis and Nontuberculous Mycobacterial Infections, edited by David Schlossberg M.D.

At the 15th Annual Global Health Education Conference in Toronto April 19-21, **Dr. Bittner** presented a poster on "Cervical Cancer Screening Perceptions and Practices in Managua, Nicaragua" with two student co-authors: Marcellene Holmes and Justin Cramer. He also chaired a panel on "Global Health Challenges," moderated two lunchtime tables on "Health Advice for International Travel," and attended meetings of the Board of Directors of the Global Health Education Consortium.

Dr. Bittner attended a meeting of the VA's VISN 23 Intensive Care Unit Collaborative in Minneapolis March 30. The Collaborative has worked to implement initiatives of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's 100,000 Lives Campaign. These include measures to reduce infections in ICUs. He presented Grand Rounds at the University of South Dakota School of Medicine in Sioux Falls on "MRSA: More Patients, More Treatments" on March 31st. He presented the same lecture at Physician Grand Rounds at CoxSouth Health Center, Springfield, Missouri, on May 9th.

Dr. Bittner was elected to the Uninet Business Council for a term beginning in June.

In his role as Co-Director of the Nebraska Biopreparedness Education [Nebraska Center for Biopreparedness Education], **Gary L. Gorby, M.D.** chaired two-day educational programs in Omaha [March 6th and 7th], Norfolk (April 4th and 5th), Gering/Scottsbluff [May 16th and 17th] and Kearney [June 29th and 30th]. During these conferences, he also lectured on the topic of pandemic influenza. **Dr. Gorby** also presented a talk on avian and pandemic influenza at the All Hazards Preparedness Conference in Montrose, CO on March 28th. In addition, he participated in a call-in phone bank on May 9th at KETV as a community service for people having questions about avian influenza during the showing of a made-for-TV movie on the topic.

Events

The Omaha VA Medical Center held the VA's first pandemic influenza tabletop exercise June 22, 2006, at the Scott Conference Center at the University of Nebraska-Omaha. Sponsored by the VA's public health strategic group in Washington, DC and run by representatives of RAND Corporation from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the daylong exercise confronted VA representatives with a simulated pandemic influenza outbreak. RAND representatives posed a series of problems to VA representatives, elicited responses, and reviewed the state of readiness of the Omaha VA to cope with pandemic influenza.

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The exercise included representatives of other organizations with which the VA would work in a pandemic influenza setting. These included the Omaha Metropolitan Medical Response System (OMMRS), the Douglas County Health Department, Creighton University Medical Center, and the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Participants from the Creighton University Medical Center Department of Internal Medicine included **Drs. Bittner, Gorby, Preheim, Joann Porter, and Edward Horowitz.** The VA is planning a similar exercise at one other medical center, the Bronx VA. The VA expects to use the results of the exercises in Omaha and the Bronx to refine its national pandemic influenza plan and develop similar exercises that can be used in VA networks and medical centers throughout the country.

Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine

Submitted by **Dan Schuller, M.D.**

Research/Clinical Studies – currently enrolling patients. For information regarding these studies, please call (402) 449-4486.

Probiotic prophylaxis of ventilator-associated pneumonia. This randomized controlled clinical trial is enrolling patients in order to evaluate the safety and efficacy of using probiotics (nonpathogenic

living bacteria) to prevent pneumonia in mechanically ventilated patients. Principal Investigator: **Lee E. Morrow, M.D.**

The ECLIPSE Study. Looking at surrogate markers and novel endpoints to measure and predict COPD severity and progression over time. Principal Investigator: **Dan Schuller, M.D.**

A Multidisciplinary Intervention to Optimize the Recovery of Elderly Patients Hospitalized with Community Acquired Pneumonia. Patients are being enrolled into this randomized controlled trial to assess whether a comprehensive, multidisciplinary assessment can minimize the functional decline of geriatric patients admitted to the hospital for pneumonia. Principal Investigator: **Lee E. Morrow, M.D.**

A prospective observational study for the psychometric validation of a patient-reported questionnaire in acute exacerbations of COPD. Exploring new tools to assess exacerbations in patients with severe COPD. Principal Investigator: **Dan Schuller, M.D.**

Dexmedetomidine compared to IV midazolam in ICU subjects requiring greater than twenty-four hours of continuous sedation. This multicenter randomized clinical trial is being conducted to determine the safety and efficacy of a novel sedative (dexmedetomidine) in patients requiring mechanical ventilation. Principal Investigator: **Lee E. Morrow, M.D.**

Effect of Roflumilast (a PDE-4 inhibitor) on exacerbation rate in patients with COPD. Principal Investigator: **Dan Schuller, M.D.**

Randomized, Double-Blind Linezolid vs. Vancomycin for Nosocomial Pneumonia Due to MRSA. This multicenter randomized clinical trial will soon begin enrolling patients to determine the optimal antibiotic regimen for patients with pneumonia caused by MRSA. Principal Investigator: **Lee E. Morrow, M.D.**

Google Scholar and the Medical Literature

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Google Scholar uses a proprietary algorithm for sorting the items found in a search. The factors Google considers when ranking the search results include “weighing the full text of each article, the author, the publication in which the article appears, and how often the piece has been cited in other scholarly literature” (from the About Google Scholar web page). Including the number of times a work is cited in the sorting algorithm may result in the display of older articles before the most recent articles on the same subject. Because of this, Google Scholar also lets the searcher sort the results by date from the most recent to the oldest.

Consider your search terms carefully

Although its sorting algorithm is quite sophisticated, search results are still determined by the terms used in the search. A search for “young doctors” will yield different results than a search for “young physicians.” Likewise a search on “acetaminophen and headache” will yield different results than a search on “paracetamol and headache,” even though the drugs are the same. Never assume your set of search terms will match everything written on your topic. Try several permutations of your search, using different synonyms (lung, pulmonary) or word forms (recurring, recurrent, recurrence).

The “Cited by” feature

One of the special features of Google Scholar is the “Cited by” function. When Google Scholar displays search results for articles, it

will also provide a link to a list of other articles which have cited it. This useful feature, which in the past was only available in expensive commercial databases, allows the researcher to identify the known “links” in the scientific literature. The “Cited by” feature also allows an author to track how his or her papers have been cited -- often one factor in promotion and tenure considerations. The ability to browse the literature using these citation linkages compliments traditional subject keyword searching, especially in those situations where it is difficult to establish all the appropriate combinations of keywords.

Google Scholar versus PubMed

Can Google Scholar be used in place of PubMed? The short answer is yes, but it would be better to use them in a complimentary fashion. Even though there is extensive overlap between these two search services, they process searches in completely different ways. The lists of search results from each service may include many of the same citations, but the ordering of the results will be quite different. In both systems, it is important to choose your search terms carefully. We’ll compare PubMed and other versions of Medline with Google Scholar in a later article, but in the meantime, do your own comparisons between the two services.

For more information, please contact Mr. Richard Jizba via email at rjizba@creighton.edu.

Residency Program News

Residents and Fellows Departing June 30, 2006

Preliminary Residents	
Lowell Amiotte	Anesthesiology at UNMC
Amy Gebauer	Diagnostic Radiology at UNMC
Daniel Kennedy	Radiology, Metro Health, Cleveland, OH
Susan Moeschler	Anesthesia residency at Mayo Clinic
Oluyemisi M. Odugbesan	University of Nebraska Medical Center- Anesthesiology
Nathan Pitts	Anesthesia training at Med. College of WI
Matthew West	Physiatry Residency
Nicholas Wilson	University of Nebraska Medical Center- Anesthesiology
Ryan Wippler	Diagnostic Radiology Residency at CUMC
Third year residents	
Sreedhara Alla	Nephrology Fellowship at Washington U, St. Louis
Deepshikha Bhasin	Geriatric Fellowship at UAB, Birmingham
Kelly J. Coon	Hospitalist, St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa, OK
Sowjanya Duthuluru	Hospitalist- Topeka, KS
Ravi Gudavalli	Chief Residency at CUMC
Doug H. Jones	A/I Fellowship at CUMC
Ann E. Narmi	Cardio Fellowship at CUMC
Sahdev Saharan	Rheumatology- University of Mississippi
Ruby Satpathy	Cardiology Fellowship at CUMC
Haamid Siddique	Hospitalist at St Cloud Hospital, Minnesota
Darren Splonskowski	Chief Residency at CUMC
Heidi Tetherow	Hospitalist in Omaha
Senthil Thambidorai	Chief Residency at CUMC
Sri Laxmi Valasareddi	Oncology Research in Missouri
Med/Peds Residents	
Lori Beth Brunner-Buck	Chief Residency at CUMC
Katrena Lee Lacey	Private Practice Medicine/Pediatrics with Larry Brown
Amy Beth Milan	Primary Care Med/Peds
Estaban Sarmentera-Conway	Family Practice in Buffalo, New York
Chief Residents	
Mahesh Bandara	Hospitalist at Beth -Israel Deaconess Hospital, Boston, MA
Aaron Ford	Cardiology Fellowship at CUMC
Jeffrey Jarrett	Pulmonary/Critical Care Fellowship at CUMC
Bala Sankar	Nephrology Fellowship at Washington University
Lori Brunner-Buck	Chief Residency at CUMC
Allergy/Immunology Fellow	
Kevin W. Parks	Allergy/Asthma Clinic of Southern Oregon/Clinical Research Institute
Cardiology Fellows	
Sean Doyle Denney	Private practice with Platte Valley Medical Group, P.C, Kearney, NE
Nancy K. Koster	Cardiology Faculty member at The Cardiac Center
John William Sype	Interventional Fellowship Program at The Cardiac Center
Interventional Cardiology Fellow	
Joseph Tuma	Rapid City, South Dakota Regional Hospital
Infectious Diseases Fellows	
Hassan Naim Dakroub	Private practice Internal Medicine/Infectious Diseases, Michigan
Angela Christine Remington	Private practice Infectious Diseases, Clarkson and Alegent, Omaha
Pulmonary / Critical Care Fellows	
Naeem Ahmed	Private Practice, Fremont, NE
Julie Chang	Applying for Private Practice, Honolulu, HI

We congratulate all the departing members of the Residency and Fellows Programs and wish them every success in their future endeavors!



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June 2006 Faculty and Service Awards

Department of Medicine Awards

Volunteer Activity

Drs. Sankarapandian, Morrow, Dunlay, Mooss, Rich, Houghton, Sakowski, Ford, Bandara, Manhart, Egan, Wichman, Bowers, Maio, Silberstein

Teaching Service Award

Hematology/Oncology

given by the residents to a division or service in recognition of consistent excellence in house staff education.

James F. Sullivan Award

Joann Porter, M.D.

For excellence and dedication to resident education awarded by the house officers.

Professionalism Role Model Award

Khalid Bashir, M.D.

selected by the residents as an excellent professional role model for his fundamental principles and professional responsibility.

Contributed Services

George Hutfless, M.D.

For excellence in medical student education. The DOM is indebted to you for your outstanding contribution to student education.

ABIM High Score Award

Nephrology

Awarded to the division with the highest score attained by our residents on the ABIM certifying exam.

School of Medicine Golden Apple/ Aesculapian Award Nominees

Class of 2006

Faculty: Robert Dunlay, M.D.
James Frock, M.D.
Resident: Douglas Jones, M.D.
Suman Pasupuleti, M.D.

Class of 2007

Faculty: Temple Brannan, M.D.

Class of 2008

Faculty: Michael Del Core, M.D.