Happy New Year from Swedish Family Medicine Residency – Geriatric Medicine Fellowship Program!

PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S INTRODUCTION

I am delighted to update you on the exciting work we are doing at the program and to highlight our current fellows and their individual contributions.

On a personal note, I am now 15 months into my role as Director of the Geriatric Medicine Fellowship here at Swedish. I am grateful to Carroll Haymon, MD (past program director) for recruiting me to this role, and to my fellow Geriatrics faculty, Drs. Carla Ainsworth and Sarah Babineau, for welcoming me into this role and creating an outstanding Geriatrics teaching faculty at this program.

Please visit our website for more information about our activities: www.swedish.org/geriatricsfellowship

News from the Fellowship

INTERPROFESSIONAL GERIATRIC ASSESSMENT CLINIC

One teaching program and service that is central to the fellowship is our Interprofessional Geriatric Assessment Clinic. In this clinic we bring together Geriatrics Faculty and Fellows, Family Medicine Resident, Pharmacist, Psychologist and Patient Care Navigator (social worker) as a team to deliver comprehensive care and a full Geriatric Assessment to elders and their families in our community. The interprofessional setting allows for many learning opportunities between our skilled team members. It is our goal that patients and families leave with more insight, resources, and an understandable plan of care.

From Left to Right: Carrie Rubenstein, MD, Melissa Leedle, MD (Fellow), Sarah Babineau, MD (Faculty), Andrea Grace, MD (Fellow), and Carla Ainsworth, MD (Faculty).

Honored to work with this group!

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Matt Schlough, MD (2015 Fellowship Graduate) has joined our former Program Director, Carroll Haymon, MD to work at Iora Health. Iora has a unique model of team care, which includes a dedicated advocate for each patient, and the team works together to treat the whole person.

REGIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Palliative Care for the Primary Care Provider, Carla Ainsworth, MD, MPH Providence Primary Care Update 2015 April 21, 2015

Empowering Primary Care Providers to Diagnose Dementia, Carrie Rubenstein, MD, Providence Primary Care Update 2015 April 21, 2015

Rapidly Progressive Dementia (RPD): A case for medical and ethical consideration, Andrea Grace, MD: Fellows Most Difficult Case Conference. September 28, 2015
We were thrilled to recruit two excellent fellows for this 2015-2016 Academic Year. In these first five months of their fellowship, they have already played an active role in the care of many frail elders in the hospital, clinic, nursing home, and in patients’ own homes.

**Andrea Grace, MD** has been a member of the development committee of a new service providing home visits to elderly patients with complex conditions. The primary goal of this program, led by Swedish Geriatrics Fellowship graduate Eric Troyer, MD, is to use an interdisciplinary approach, geriatric assessment principles, and patient centered care to deliver ever higher quality and service. Another goal of the program is to decrease future acute care needs.

**Melissa Leedle, MD** is studying a HIPAA compliant text messaging system between nursing home staff and resident physicians. She is particularly interested if this communication method improves quality of care and family medicine resident interest in nursing home work after residency. The study is being done through a family medicine resident survey, followed by staff training on the text messaging system, and then a repeat survey. Initial results show that secure text messaging has the potential to decrease phone calls, pages and increase professional satisfaction of residents in nursing home care.

**MATCH DAY for 2016-2017 FELLOWS**

As is the usual case in academic medicine, it always seems to be recruitment season! On Dec 2, 2015, we celebrated another successful match.

We are thrilled that LAURA BLINKHORN will stay at SFM next year in the Geriatric Medicine Fellow Role. She has been an outstanding DFM resident and has demonstrated both her affinity and interest for the Geriatric population.

We are happy to welcome ANSHU RIMAL to the Swedish family. She lives in Seattle and has worked in the post-acute setting while doing some hospitalist work over the past 5 years. She is interested in the Geriatrics fellowship to broaden and deepen her expertise in the field of Geriatrics.

**NATIONAL MEETINGS**

Our Swedish Geriatrics Fellowship team recently had 2 abstracts accepted for presentation at the American Geriatric Society 2016 Annual Meeting. Stay tuned!

**NOTES OF APPRECIATION**

Thank you to Liz Stahl, our Geriatrics Fellowship Program Coordinator for her constant support of the program, and to Elisabeth Winter, who inspired the writing of this Newsletter, and who has helped with the formatting and production.