

WORD ON THE STRIET

A newsletter of the Department of Medicine

Volume 1, Issue 8

April 6, 2007



Striet Talk

Dr. Robert M. Strieter,
Chairman

The last few weeks have been very exciting at UVa. On March 15th our 4th year medical students found out where they matched for residency programs. 29 of our students will begin residencies in Internal Medicine

next year, five of them staying here at UVa.

The previous day, March 14th, the Residency Program received the results of their long recruitment season. 27 new categorical residents will be joining us next year, along with three preliminaries and three on the primary care track. This is one of the most diverse groups of residents we have ever had, with people coming from all parts of the United States. Congratulations to Dr. Donowitz, the Associate Program Directors, and the Chief Residents for such a successful conclusion to the latest recruitment season.

Also recently announced were the first five winners of the annual DoM Excellence in Faculty Mentoring award—Shu Man Fu, Richard Guerrant, Theresa Guise, Raghu Mirmira, and Mark Okusa. Many outstanding applications were received, and I am extremely impressed by the quality of mentoring that goes on between our senior faculty and their junior counterparts and trainees. These five winners have made a significant impact on the career development of their colleagues, and their recognition is well-deserved. Awardees will receive a plaque at our June 14th dinner, as well as an unrestricted \$5,000 gift account.

I would also like to take this opportunity to again remind faculty that the first annual Carey, Marshall, Thorner Scholars' Research Day will be on Monday, April 9th in Jordan Hall. This is an excellent opportunity to see the research efforts of our residents and fellows, and I strongly encourage everyone to attend.

Also Inside...

VC/AC Articles

[*Education*](#)

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Save the Date

April 9—Carey, Marshall, Thorner Scholars' Research Day
Please contact Cathy Keefe-Jankowski for details

April 23—Annual Housestaff/Faculty Photo
1:00 pm, after Grand Rounds

May 4—DoM Research Day

May 4 & 5—Centennial Celebration

Please contact Cindy Smith or Camilla Curnow for details

June 14—Annual Resident/Faculty Dinner

Please contact Terri Washington for details

Education

Gerald Donowitz & Michael Rein

Undergraduate Medical Education

Residency Match

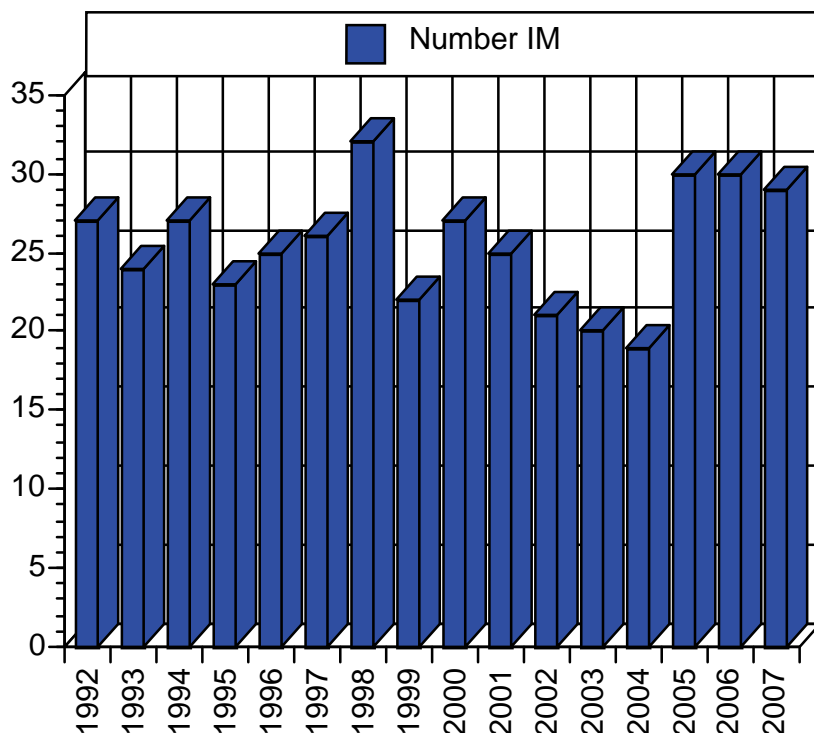
Students in the Class of 2007 were informed of their residency matches at high noon on March 15. Our students did very well indeed. The 29 students matching in categorical or primary care Internal Medicine will attend the following programs:

Baylor College of Medicine TX, Houston	Mayo Medical School MN, Rochester	University of North Carolina NC, Chapel Hill
Boston University MA, Boston	McGraw, Northwestern IL, Chicago	University of Pittsburgh PA, Pittsburgh
Cambridge Hospital, Tufts MA, Cambridge	National Naval Med Center MD, Bethesda	University of Rochester, Strong NY, Rochester
Duke University NC, Durham	New England Medical Center MA, Boston	University of Utah UT, Salt Lake City
Georgetown University Hospital DC, Washington	Thomas Jefferson University PA, Philadelphia	University of Virginia VA, Charlottesville
Johns Hopkins University MD, Baltimore	U of California, San Francisco CA, San Francisco	Wake Forest University NC, Winston-Salem
Johns Hopkins, Bayview MD, Baltimore	University of Maryland MD, Baltimore	Five of our students matched with us (Baltz, Bell, Gosain, Flickinger, and Rivera).
Massachusetts General Hospital MA, Boston		

Steady Numbers for Internal Medicine

Number of UVa students choosing categorical or primary care residencies in Internal Medicine, 1992-2007

The total number of students going on in Internal Medicine has held relatively constant over the past three years in spite of decreasing exposure to Internal Medicine during the third year. Indeed, preliminary data suggest that the number may increase next year. We shall see.



Gratton Alexander Litz Award

The Litz award, the highest honor conferred by the DoM, will be presented to Elizabeth (Beth) Ann Brantley. Gratton Alexander Litz, III, known as Alex, graduated from the University of Virginia School of Medicine in 1983. He continued his training in Internal Medicine at the University of Alabama, where he won the award for the outstanding medical resident. He had been selected to become Chief Resident in that program, when his career and his life were tragically cut short by cancer, which resulted in his death on November 2, 1986. Criteria for the Litz Award, so strongly manifested by Alex himself, include:

- Excellent clinical skills
- Outstanding ability to interact with patients on a personal level
- Zest and enthusiasm for the clerkship
- An eagerness to learn
- A good sense of humor
- Evidence of being a well rounded person

Beth is a star, and, we think, quite like Alex. She will be staying with us next year in Pediatrics. The award will be presented at Grand Rounds on May 14.

Just a few extracts from her clerkship comments include: "She cares greatly about the patient and is so enthusiastic about medicine - rare to see these days...a joy to work with...delightful young lady, a real pleasure to work with and teach... demonstrated excellent knowledge in all areas...she will make a very fine physician...patients really liked interacting with her... excellent history taking and presenting skills...an outstanding job on this rotation in every respect...her knowledge base is superb, and her enthusiasm for continuing to learn is contagious for everyone on the team... reliable, meticulous, and thoughtful...top 1-2% of students I have ever worked with...a team player... functioned more as an AI than a 3rd year medical student...I was particularly impressed with her overall enthusiasm and energy on the service."

Our Man in Philadelphia

Joseph Sivak, second year student, has been appointed to the Governors' Council of the Virginia Chapter of the American College of Physicians. He has been elected our regional representative to the national Council of Student Members and has been appointed to the Publications Committee of the ACP. This materially helps the Virginia Chapter, as we will have direct feedback from the CSM in Philadelphia. Well done, Joe!

Graduate Medical Education

Residency Match

The Residency Program received its match results on March 14, and we are very excited about our incoming group of PGY-1s. We have a very diverse group this year, representing all corners of the country.

Autio, Karen Stony Brook University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine	Intagliata, Nicolas Wake Forest University School of Medicine
Baltz, Joseph University of Virginia School of Medicine	Kapnadak, Siddhartha Oregon Health & Science University
Bell, John University of Virginia School of Medicine	Keck, Leslie George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences
Bevelock, Laura UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School-Camden	Knight, William University of Florida College of Medicine
Changappa, Reshma The Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University	Lin, Christine University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine
Goldbeck, Amy Temple University School of Medicine	Mandichak, Mark Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University
Gosain, Sonia University of Virginia School of Medicine	Massey, Julie Medical University of South Carolina College of Medicine
Hall, Richard University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas Southwestern Medical School	Monteleone, Peter Tufts University School of Medicine
Hong, Gregory University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine	Plitt, David Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine

Posthumus, Jonathon
UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson
Medical School-Piscataway

Rivera, Jorge
University of Virginia School of Medicine

Satyanarayana, Gowri
Ohio State University
College of Medicine and Public Health

Shrode, Charles
Indiana University School of Medicine

Sibre, Kelly
Eastern Virginia Medical School

Slitt, Gavin
University of Connecticut School of Medicine

Synan, Matthew
Jefferson Medical College of
Thomas Jefferson University

Zhu, Zheng
University of Mississippi School of Medicine

Zlupko, Michael
University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine

Primary Care:

Flickinger, Tabor
University of Virginia School of Medicine

Lopez, David
University of Miami School of Medicine

Martinez, Lisa
University of Miami School of Medicine

Preliminaries:

Bryer Groff, Bridget
University of Virginia School of Medicine

Demartini, Nicholas
Dartmouth Medical School

Martinez, Sean
University of Miami School of Medicine

Neurology:

Acosta, Lealani
University of Virginia

Gangal, Kaanchan S.
Jefferson Medical College of
Thomas Jefferson University

Graham, Kelly C.
Eastern Virginia Medical School

Guzik, Amy K.
Albany Medical College

Taylor, Jennie W.
University of Kentucky College of Medicine

We Have a Winner

First-year resident Michael Lipinski, M.D took first place in the oral presentation competition at the Virginia State Scientific Meeting of the American College of Physicians, in McLean, Virginia, March 16-17, 2007. His abstract follows:

Lipinski M, Vetrovic GW, Froelicher VF. Hemoglobin is a Predictor of Exercise Performance, Exercise-Induced Ischemia, and Mortality

Background: While hemoglobin is a known predictor of cardiovascular (CV) death following acute myocardial infarction, little is known about its effect on clinical exercise test performance and mortality in patients referred for routine exercise testing. We hypothesized that subjects with low hemoglobin would have poor exercise capacity and would be at increased risk of all-cause and CV mortality.

Methods: Clinical variables, laboratory values, exercise treadmill data, and event data were obtained for 1,959 subjects referred for exercise treadmill testing for clinical reasons between 1996 to 2003. All-cause mortality was obtained from the social security death index and autopsy reports or clinical notes were used to determine CV mortality. Stepwise multivariable regression analysis was performed to determine which variables predicted exercise performance. Student T-test and Chi-square analysis were used to compare continuous and dichotomous variables. Cox proportional hazards analysis and Kaplan-Meier survival analysis were performed to determine which variables predicted all-cause and CV death. P-values<0.05 were considered significant.

Results: Our population had a mean age of 57±12 years, 95% were male, 16% had diabetes, 51% had hypertension, 35% had hypercholesterolemia, and 66% had a history of smoking. During follow-up, 10% of subjects died, 3.8% of subjects died of CV causes, and 10.6% had cardiovascular events. Males with hemoglobin<13 (n=161) achieved lower METs than male patients with hemoglobin≥13 (n=1637) (6.4±0.2 vs 8.7±0.1, p<0.0001). Significantly more males with hemoglobin<13 had ST depression than patients with a hemoglobin≥13 (15.5% vs 8.6%, p<0.004). In stepwise multivariable regression analysis, hemoglobin (p<0.0001) significantly predicted METs, along with age, BMI, activity status, smoking, WBC count, typical angina, claudication, COPD, and CHF. Hemoglobin level predicted exercise induced ST depression, along with age, typical angina, and administration of statins, digoxin or nitrates. In male patients that died, hemoglobin was significantly lower than patients that did not die (14.2±0.11 vs 14.8±0.03, (p<0.0001). Cox proportional hazard analysis demonstrated that age, known CAD, hemoglobin, and METs were significant predictors of CV mortality. Age, heart rate recovery, hemoglobin, and METs were significant predictors of all-cause mortality. Kaplan-Meiers survival analysis demonstrated that patients with anemia (Hgb<13) had significantly higher mortality than patients with hemoglobin≥13 (OR 2.2, 95% CI 1.4 to 3.4, p<0.0005). **Conclusion:** Hemoglobin level is a powerful predictor of exercise performance and ST segment depression during exercise testing. Hemoglobin is also a powerful predictor of mortality and provides additional prognostic information to that available from exercise stress testing.

Faculty Development

Coleen McNamara & Mitchell Rosner

Congratulations to our Outstanding Faculty Mentors!

The first annual DoM Excellence in Mentoring Award winners were recently announced. In order to qualify for this award, nominees must demonstrate excellence and dedication in helping junior faculty members and trainees succeed.

We had an outstanding pool of candidates, from which five awardees were selected:



Dr. Shu Man Fu

Comments from mentees:

“Dr. Fu unselfishly has devoted a significant amount of his time mentoring mentees at all levels, ranging from graduates students to mid/senior faculty...”
 “There is no doubt that his efforts have enabled me to establish a functioning and

productive research lab...”

“Significantly, he has done it (mentoring) in an altruistic fashion and continues to do so.”



Dr. Theresa Guise

Comments from mentees:

“She has all the essential qualities of a truly outstanding mentor: she helps to find solutions to issues that arise in a given research project; discusses relevant up-to-date research findings; provides a strong foundation for hypothesis-driven research;

aids in establishing local and international collaborations; provides opportunities for manuscript writing; is always available; gives encouraging, rationale advice; and is a role model herself with her own research contributions.”

“The door to her office is always open, and I cross her threshold without hesitation to discuss data, diagnostic dilemmas from the clinic or just to chat.”



Dr. Mark Okusa

Comments from mentees:

“He gives freely with his time – is thoughtful and generous and has tremendous insight into the academic lifestyle.”

“I consider Mark’s mentorship to be the resource with the greatest impact in my

academic life so far here at UVA.”

“Because of the strong and consistent support from Dr. Okusa, I have found myself armed with the tools necessary to pursue an independent career.”

Dr. Richard Guerrant

Comments from mentees:

“The inspiration, guidance and support that he gives are just remarkable.”

“Dick has an uncanny ability to bring out the best in his protégés, emboldening us with confidence to move in new directions, to ask questions outside of our discipline, and to “connect the dots” of discovery to tell a story.”

“He was a tireless mentor who was always available and exposed me as a fellow to the Who’s Who of Geographic Medicine....”



Dr. Raghu Mirmira

Comments from mentees:

“He is a generous teacher, always willing to give of his time to help his mentees, whether that be on a weekend or during the busiest of work days.”

“Dr. Mirmira has instilled in me a love for the basics of scientific investigation and the perseverance to succeed. I was particularly fond of Dr. Mirmira’s hands on approach to mentoring but at the same time appreciated the freedom he gave to experiment with different approaches and techniques.”



A Shocking Lack of Evidence

Over the last six months, Janine Jagger (director, International Healthcare Worker Safety Center) has lent her epidemiologic expertise in nosocomial transmission of bloodborne pathogens in support of 5 Bulgarian nurses and a Palestinian doctor imprisoned in Libya since 1999 and accused of deliberately infecting more than 400 Libyan children at a Benghazi hospital with HIV.

Dr. Jagger was quoted extensively in an article in *Nature* about the case ("A Shocking Lack of Evidence", 10/26/06), and was also interviewed by Voice of America and BBC World News, regarding the total absence of epidemiologic or scientific evidence to support the Libyan government's accusations. The workers' second trial, which concluded with a guilty verdict and death sentence on 12/19/06, has prompted massive protests from the international medical and scientific community and press. The case is currently being appealed to the Libyan Supreme Court. In February '07, Dr. Jagger attended meetings at the State Department with representatives from Physicians for Human Rights to discuss U.S. policy regarding the "Libyan Six."

To find out more about the case, visit <http://www.healthsystem.virginia.edu/internet/epinet/Libya.cfm>.

Microscopic Hematology



The Hematology Oncology Division has launched a new website, "Microscopic Hematology" that provides representative digital images of normal and abnormal hematological cells.

<http://www.healthsystem.virginia.edu/microscopichematology>

The website is the creation of Charles E. Hess, M.D., Professor of Medicine (Hematology) and Lindsey J. Garrison, B.A., Clinical Laboratory Scientist. The goal is to provide a teaching tool for education and patient care.

Phase 2 of the website will include the description, pathobiology and differential diagnosis; followed by classification of hematological disorders with cross reference to images.

UMA EQUOS Team Creates Improved Care

The UMA **EQUOS** committee is a multidisciplinary group designed to continuously improve **E**ducation, **Q**uality, **O**perations and **S**afety at University Medical Associates (UMA), the IM resident-faculty practice which is the largest in the university system. Faculty, Residents, Clinical and Administrative Staff have collaborated to achieve dramatic improvements in care and efficiency at UMA. Using the tenets of Continuous Quality Improvement, key opportunities were identified in each of the domains via techniques as simple as time motion studies using patient recorded times of service for each segment of the patient visit.

Pilot changes based on such findings have included interventions such as a designated charge nurse to troubleshoot and oversee flow, use of patient downtime to enhance information gathering and documentation, creation of smaller staff teams paired with providers on an ongoing basis, and ongoing feedback to providers on results.

Early pilots, championed by the staff themselves have already yielded remarkable results, with a 30% decrease in patient wait times in exam rooms, large improvements in phone access and improved patient, provider and staff satisfaction. The UMA EQUOS TEAM will continue to monitor and implement changes, and can serve as an important model for ongoing improvement in complex clinical settings.

Division News, Publications & Grants

Cardiovascular Medicine

News

- Dr. Sarembock was this year's recipient of the J. Edwin Wood, Jr. M.D. Teaching Award. It was presented to him on March 15 by Dr. Fadi El-Ahdab and all the fellows. Photos from Dr. Sarembock's farewell and teaching award luncheon can be seen [here](#).

Publications

- Ham AS, Goetz DJ, Klibanov AL, Lawrence MB. Microparticle adhesive dynamics and rolling mediated by selectin-specific antibodies under flow. *Biotechnol Bioeng*. 2007 Feb 15;96(3):596-607.
- Beller GA: Myocardial Perfusion Imaging Utilizing Single Photon Emission Computed Tomography Techniques, in *Cardiovascular Medicine*, 3rd ed. Willerson JT, Cohn JN, Wellens HJJ, Holmes DR Jr, eds. London: Springer-Verlag, 2007; pp 841-853. (Chapter 36A)
- Wamhoff BR, Sinha S, Owens GK. Conditional mouse models to study developmental and pathophysiological gene function in muscle. *Handbook of Experimental Pharmacology*. 178:441-68, 2007.
- Kawai-Kowase K, Owens GK. Multiple repressor pathways contribute to phenotypic switching of vascular smooth muscle cells. *American Journal of Physiology - Cell Physiology*. 292(1):C59-69, 2007 Jan.

Gastroenterology

News

- Patrick Northup, MD has been selected for funding of the AASLD Jan Albrecht Commitment to Clinical Research in Liver Diseases Award which is a \$150K two-year career development award. His application was entitled "Clinical, Inflammatory and Economic Impact of Dextran-70 in Treating SBP".
- Brian Behm, MD has been awarded the ACG Junior Faculty Development Grant from the ACG. This award is \$150K two-year career development award and is entitled "Effects of Pravastatin in Active Crohn's Disease".
- Fabio Cominelli, M.D., Ph.D. has been appointed Associate Editor of the *Journal of Immunology* for the period of July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2011.

Publications

- Parrish CR, Krenitsky J, Willcutts K. Gastrointestinal Disease. In: The A.S.P.E.N Nutrition Support Core Curriculum: A case-based approach-the adult patient. Gottschlich MM (ed.). American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition, Silver Spring, MD; 2007:508-539.
- Dimberg, E.L., Crowe, S.E., Trugman, J.M., Swerdlow, R.H., Lopes, B.S., Bourne, T.D., Burns, T.M. Fatal Encephalitis in a Patient with Refractory Celiac Disease Presenting with Myorhythmia and Carpal Spasm. *Movement Disorders*. 22:407-11, 2007.
- Catassi, C., Kryszak, D., Louis-Jacques, O., Duerksen, D., Hall, I., Crowe, S., Brown, A., Procaccini, N., Wonderly, Brigid., Hartley, P., Moreci, J., Bennett, N., Horvath, K., Burk, M., Fasano, A. Detection of Celiac Disease in Primary Care: A Multicenter Case-Finding Study in North America. *American Journal of Gastroenterology*. 102:1-7, 2007.
- Pagnini C, Cominelli F, Probiotics in experimental and human inflammatory bowel disease: Discussion points. *Dig Liver Dis*. 2006 Dec;38 Suppl 2:S270-3. PMID: 17259089 [PubMed - in process]
- Donowitz M, Germino G, Cominelli F, Anderson JM, The attrition of young physician-scientists: problems and potential solutions. *Gastroenterology*. 2007 Feb;132(2):477-80. PMID: 17258744 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

General Medicine, Geriatrics, and Palliative Care

News

- Under the direction of Dr. John Leiner, UMA has recently implemented OPTOS, a retinal photography tool used in the early detection of diabetes. UMA is the first primary care training site in the country to implement such a system.

- Drs. Margaret Plews-Ogan and Daniel Becker, along with faculty from Northwestern University School of Medicine, will be presenting a workshop at the Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting in April, entitled “Finding Wisdom in Medical Errors: A writing workshop”.
- Dr. Daniel Becker will present a 30 minute workshop at U Iowa Carver School of Medicine and Iowa Writers Workshop: Art of Medicine: Writing and the Examined Life.
- Dr. Leslie Blackhall was featured in the March 12, 2007 Washington Post article, “At the End of Life, a Racial Divide / Minorities Are More Likely to Want Aggressive Care, Studies Show”

Publications

- Hamric, Ann B. PhD, RN, FAAN; Blackhall, Leslie J. MD, MTS. Nurse-physician perspectives on the care of dying patients in intensive care units: Collaboration, moral distress, and ethical climate. *Critical Care Medicine*. 35 (2):422-429, February 2007.
- Winchester D, Plews-Ogan ML. Emergency Medicine Photo Quiz. *Resident & Staff Physician* Feb 2007;53(2).
- Wu E, Elnicki D, Alper E, Bost J, Corbett E, et al. Procedural and Interpretive Skills of Medical Students: Experiences and Attitudes of Third-Year Students. *Academic Medicine*, October 2006; 81(10):s48-51.
- Corbett E, Payne N, Bradley E, Maughan K, Heald E, Wang X. Enhancing Clinical Skills Education: the University of Virginia School of Medicine’s Clerkship Clinical Skills Workshop Program. *Academic Medicine*. July 2007 (accepted for publication).

Stress-reduction Programs

- For healthcare practitioners, patient care can be more than just a fulfilling career – it can also lead to stress. The UVa Mindfulness Center offers healthcare professional an opportunity to find balance and self-awareness through a stress-reduction program created specifically for the health care worker. Class begins April 11. To register call (434) 924-1190 or visit www.uvamindfulnesscenter.org.

Hematology/Oncology

New Trials

- Amgen Protocol No. 20060131 entitled “A Randomized, Controlled, Open-label Study Evaluating the Efficacy and Tolerability of AMG 531 versus Medical Standard of Care as Chronic Therapy for Non-splenectomized Subjects with Immune (Idiopathic) Thrombocytopenic Purpura” Principle Investigator B. Gail Macik, MD. Sub-PI John Densmore, MD. Study Coordinator, Jennifer Phillips, RN. *Eligible patients must have refractory ITP with platelet count of less than 50,000/uL despite at least one conventional therapy excluding splenectomy. Patients will be randomized to study drug versus medical standard of care for 6 months with option to role over to a continuous therapy study at completion of the primary study.*
- “A Phase II/III Pivotal Trial Evaluating the Safety and Pharmacokinetic Properties and Efficacy of a Plasma Derived Anti-Thrombin III Concentrate with Administration in Surgery, Pregnancy, and Thromboembolic or Thrombotic Events” PI : B. Gail Macik, MD. Co-PI Thomas Harris, MD, Study Coordinator, Windsor Simmons, RN. *ATIII deficiency is a rare disorder. This study is open to all patients with ATIII deficiency undergoing surgery or who are pregnant to study a new plasma derived ATIII replacement product. Patients may elect to participate in a separate pharmacokinetic study.*
- Please contact B. Gail Macik, MD for additional details or for study referral.

Infectious Diseases and International Health

News

- Dr. William Petri has been appointed to the new working group on Eukaryotic Pathogens and Disease Vectors Target Selection. This group is being jointly organized by the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) of the National Institutes of Health.
- Dr. William Petri served as Chair of the NIH DBBD Minority & Disability Predoctoral Fellowship (F31) Review Committee in February.
- Presentation by Dr. Michael Rein: Challenging cases in STD, Family Practice Case Conference, March 12, 2007.
- Molly Hughes MD, PhD has been elected Vice Chair for 2009, and Chair for 2011 for the Gordon Research Conference on "Integrating Biodefense, Homeland Security and Basic Science"

Publications

- Yoshikawa T, Kidouchi K, Kimura S, Okubo T, Perry J, Jagger J. Needlestick injuries to the feet of Japanese health-care workers: a culture-specific exposure risk. *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol* 2007 (Feb.);28:215-18.
- Jagger J. Caring for healthcare workers: a global perspective. *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol* 2007 (Jan.);28:1-4.
- Perry JL, Jagger J. Obstetrician-to-patient HIV transmission [letter]. *AIDS* 2006;20:1785-6.
- Perry JL, Pearson RD, Jagger J. Infected healthcare workers and patient safety: a double standard. *Am J Infect Control* 2006;34(5):314-9.
- Tessier J, Green C, Padgett D, Zhao W, Schwatz L, Hughes M, and Hewlett E. Contributions from histamine, prostanoids, and neurokinins to edema elicited by edema toxin from *Bacillus anthracis*. *Infection and Immunity*, April 2007, Vol 75, Issue 4.

Nephrology**News**

- Dr Bolton was recognized as a 2007 American Association of Kidney Patients Medal of Excellence Nominee, March 11, 2007, in Baltimore, MD
- Rasheed Balogun was interviewed on Ch. 29, March 7, 2007 for World Kidney Day, a world-wide effort to raise awareness of kidney disease. Dr. Balogun is the Chair of the Medical Advisory Board for National Kidney Foundation organized a local Charlottesville effort.
- Dr. Bolton attended the Renal Physicians Association Board meetings in Baltimore and participated in the construction of the position papers and public statement regarding the FDA Advisory and Black box warning for erythropoietin stimulating agents.
- Dr. Rosner organized and chaired the second annual Nephrology Young Investigator's Forum in Baltimore on March 7 and 8.
- Dr. Bolton served as an invited reviewer for Diabetes UK grants
- Dr. Rosner, Sandy Bailey, David Simmons and clinic staff, the Medical Students and others who screened 76 UVA MC employees and others on March 2, 2007 in the Kidney Center Clinic. A significant number of employees thought previously healthy had abnormal screening tests.
- Dr. Bolton was an invited reviewer, Wellcome Trust proposal.
- Dr. Okusa was a member of the NIH Expert Panel "Establishing a Focused Kidney Disease Clinical Research Agenda", January 29-30, 2007.
- Drs. Rosner and Holley have initiated a new home hemodialysis program centered at the Kidney Center. Patients in this program will undergo hemodialysis in their own homes up to 6 times per week. This exciting new program offers patients another option for renal replacement therapy and the promise of improved outcomes.
- Amandeep Bajwa in Dr. Okusa's laboratory won third place in the 2nd Young Investigator's Forum, Baltimore, MD, March 7-8, 2007. Amandeep has been selected to present her work at the National Kidney Foundation meeting, April 2007, Chicago, IL.
- Dr. Isaacs received a grant from Abbott of ~\$30,000 to start a Center of Excellence for Community Outreach and Prevention of CKD in Southwest Virginia.
- Dr. Isaacs participated in a remote screening clinic in Puerto Rico with 20 UVA undergraduates for alternative spring break where they participated in health screening. .
- Dr. Obrig served as a reviewer on NIH Study Section for Research Centers of Excellence in Pediatric Nephrology. He also recently served as a member of a FDA Expert Panel on Anti-Infective.

Publications

- Li, Li, L. Huang, S. S.J. Sung, Randall Gregg, Vic Engelhard, P.I Lobo, M.D. Okusa. NKT cell activation of PMN Interferon gamma production Induces Injury following Ischemia-Reperfusion. In Press, *J. Immunol.* 2007. In Press

Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine**Publications**

- Phadke AP, Akangire G, Park SJ, Lira SA, Mehrad B. The role of CC chemokine receptor-6 in host defense in murine invasive pulmonary aspergillosis. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med.* 2007 Mar 22 [E-pub ahead of print].
- Mehrad B, Keane MP, Strieter RM. Chemokines as mediators of angiogenesis. 2007. *Thromb Haemost* [In press].