Monday Memo –April 10, 2017

Publications

- Carole Upshur, Melodie Wenz-Gross and the Kidsteps post-doctoral fellows Mirian Heyman and Anthoula Poulakos, have published two papers:


- Our Scribe Paper has finally been published: Earls ST, Savageau JA, Begley S, Saver BG, Sullivan K, Chuman A., Can Scribes Boost FPs Efficiency and Job Satisfaction? *Journal of Family Practice* 2017;66(4):206-214. This has been a great example of a terrific team effort getting the project off the ground, integrating scribes into a busy family practice, and conducting a rigorous evaluation of its many components. A heartfelt
thanks to our Barre colleagues for pioneering our use of scribes; it’s made a big difference for many throughout the department!

Presentations

- Hugh Silk was the Keynote Speaker for the 2017 two-day Rhode Island Prenatal and Pediatric Dentistry Mini-Residency in Providence, RI on April 1 addressing the topic of The Importance of the Medical-Dental Connection.

Academic Appointments and Promotions

Congratulations to the following faculty with recently completed academic appointments:

- **Mark Fitzgerald, MD** was recently appointed as an Assistant Professor in the Department. Dr. Fitzgerald is a 2013 University of Massachusetts Medical School graduate who trained in the Worcester Family Medicine Residency program at the Hahnemann Family Health Center (HFHC), graduating in 2016. We were pleased to recruit him earlier this year to a faculty position in our Department based at HFHC.

  While in medical school Dr. Fitzgerald developed an interest in geriatric medicine and worked as an Intern (2010-11) to integrate geriatrics education into the medical school’s curriculum. He has made a number of presentations on geriatrics locally and for the American Geriatrics Society and in 2011 was also the national recipient of the Edward Henderson Award in Geriatrics. Dr. Fitzgerald was recognized for his teaching abilities and compassion as a physician in 2014 as Resident of the Month and subsequently he was elected into the Gold Humanism Honors Society.

  During residency Dr. Fitzgerald co-founded the High Risk Clinic at HFHC which was the result of his quality improvement project focused on how to reduce health care costs for high-need patients. An outcome for patients being seen in this high risk clinic was for more attentive, longer appointments, with access to a multi-disciplinary team that assisted in managing their care. The team includes a pharmacist, social worker and behavioral health psychologist.
• **Donna Jones, DMD, MPH** was recently appointed as an Assistant Professor in the Department. Dr. Jones received her Doctor of Medical Dentistry degree in 1982 from the University of Pennsylvania where she was the recipient of a National Service Corps Scholarship. In 1998 she completed a Masters of Public Health degree with a concentration in community health/health policy management from Temple University, College of health Professions in Philadelphia, PA. She is currently Director of Dental Services/MassHealth for the Office of Clinical Affairs based within Commonwealth Medicine. In this role she will work to develop and implement oral health clinical standards, evidence-based clinical guidelines and best practices to improve the oral health outcomes for MassHealth members. Prior to her arrival she worked as Dental Director for CompleteCare Health Networks New Jersey – Rural (2009-15) and provided oversight for the day to day operations of five dental clinics as well as practicing within a dental clinic weekly. Her 30+ year career has been devoted serving diverse populations in underserved areas like Brownsville, TX and Pine Apple Alabama.

Dr. Jones has an interest in contributing academically to the Worcester Family Medicine residency program’s oral health curriculum and will provide lectures to the residents as requested. Additionally she has agreed to contribute her expertise to the development of the Oral Health Spiral Curriculum and participate as a small group leader in the Department’s Population Health Clerkship. Dr. Jones indicates that the work she does within the department will be the catalyst to her publishing in the future on topics related to oral health and primary care. She has also delivered presentations regionally and nationally in her areas of interest/expertise.

• **Aileen Lemoine RPh, CGP** was recently appointed as an Instructor in the Department. Ms. Lemoine received her pharmacy degree in 1994 from the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy. Since the completion of her degree she has worked within small community based pharmacies, Finn Pharmacy in Grafton, Duggan Pharmacy in Webster and Shattuck Pharmacy in Northborough where she has been employed for the last decade. Ms. Lemoine is a dedicated resource to the many individuals who come to the pharmacy looking for advice on their medical prescriptions, a more thorough understanding of their medical condition, potentially harmful drug interactions, and also assists with their transition of care from hospital to home. She is very in tune to the importance of the pharmacist-physician relationship.

When Ms. Lemoine teaches in the Family Medicine 3rd Year Clerkship she brings that perspective to the medical students and emphasizes the ways pharmacists and physicians can work together for the benefit of the patient. The students also gain a better
understanding of what a pharmacist can do for patients such as blood pressure monitoring, A1C and glucose testing. Drs. Domino and Lindholm have found her lectures and interaction with the students extremely valuable.

- **Laura Sturgill, MD** was recently appointed as an Assistant Professor in the Department. Dr. Sturgill is a 2013 University of Vermont College of Medicine graduate and completed a Family Medicine Residency Program in 2016 at Lancaster General Health in Lancaster, PA. Dr. Sturgill was recently recruited as a member of our Worcester Family Medicine Residency Program’s core faculty, based at Family Health Center of Worcester (FHCW), where she teaches residents and medical students at all levels. A former elementary school teacher, Dr. Sturgill is an experienced educator who has been able to apply her skills to better precept learners and prepare and teach clinical topics for resident didactics and workshops.

Committed to serving underserved urban communities, as a physician at FHCW, Dr. Sturgill takes care of a diverse population of patients across the spectrum within the city of Worcester. She is a knowledgeable clinician, inquisitive and critical, and displays a commitment to try to improve healthcare access in communities. As a junior faculty member, Dr. Sturgill has already demonstrated an interest in academic medicine having presented a variety of posters at national and regional family medicine conferences.

**WELLNESS MOMENTS FOR THE MONDAY MEMO**

In a recent issue of NEJM, the section on Perspectives had two moving pieces. Kathryn, describes a 4th year medical student’s death by suicide (http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp1615141) and Breaking the Stigma (http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp1615974#t=article) describes one physician’s experience and lessons learned about recovery in a culture that is slow to move away from blame, shame, and secrecy regarding mental illness and addiction. The article is a powerful statement about the explicit and subtle messages we send one another, our learners, and perhaps most importantly, ourselves, about these issues. If you choose to read it, I encourage you to notice your own internal responses to the piece—your thoughts, bodily sensations, and emotions. While the article is not intended to be a recipe for wellness per se, the quotes below are pretty awesome regardless of whether you are currently struggling with a medical condition or not.