

medicine minute

April 29, 2025



RECOGNITION

Odedosu Receives AAIM Educational Program Development Award

Kehinde Odedosu, M.D., an Associate Professor in the Division of Hospital Medicine and Assistant Dean for Student Affairs in the Office of Student Empowerment and Engagement, received the Louis N. Pangaro, MD, Educational Program Development Award from the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine during Academic Internal Medicine Week earlier this month.

Originally from Nigeria, Dr. Odedosu holds a bachelor's degree in integrative neuroscience and Spanish from the State University of New York at Binghamton. She earned her medical degree from State University of New York at Stone Brook and completed internal medicine residency training at New York University.

Dr. Odedosu joined the UT Southwestern faculty in 2010. ■



INFLUENCERS

Campbell, Sutaria Present Projects at AIMW

Jessica Campbell, M.D., an Assistant Professor in the Division of General Internal Medicine, and Jaini Sutaria, M.D., an Assistant Professor in the Division of Hospital Medicine and Course Co-Director for the Residency Essentials Internal Medicine track, were among four individuals selected to present their work at the Undergraduate Medical Education oral abstracts plenary session during Academic Internal Medicine Week earlier this month.

Dr. Campbell's project, "Assessing the Assessor: NEQI Feedback for Improvement of Clinical Evaluations," discussed whether the Narrative Evaluation Quality Instrument (NEQI) could be used as a feedback tool for faculty to improve the quality of their narrative assessments of student performance.

Dr. Sutaria's project, "Medical Escape Room: A Circular Innovation to Prepare 4th Year Medical Students to Transition to Residency," described the development and implementation of a medical escape room activity to help prepare learners for important skills needed in their intern year.

Originally from Louisiana, Dr. Campbell holds a bachelor's degree in biomedical engineering from Texas A&M University in College Station, where she graduated *summa cum laude*. She earned her medical degree at UT Southwestern and completed internal medicine residency training at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, where she served as Chief Resident. Prior to joining the UT Southwestern faculty in 2020, Dr. Campbell served on the faculty at UTHealth McGovern School of Medicine in Houston.

Dr. Sutaria earned her medical degree at the NHL Municipal Medical College in Ahmedabad, India. She completed one year of radiology residency at the Seth KM School of Postgraduate Medicine and Research in Ahmedabad and then immigrated to the United States, completing a residency in internal medicine at the University of Illinois College of Medicine. She joined the UT Southwestern faculty in 2017. ■

Clinicians Sought to Participate in Home BP Visual Estimation Survey

Wanpen Vongpatanasin, M.D., a Professor in the Division of Cardiology and Program Director of the Hypertension Fellowship Program, is seeking clinician participants for the **E.Y.E.-BALL** study (Estimating Yield of Eyeballed Blood Pressure Averages), an investigation into the accuracy of estimating home blood pressure (BP) readings from visual estimation.

"Out-of-office BP monitoring is considered to be the gold standard in assessing BP for diagnosis and management of hypertension," Dr. Vongpatanasin says. "This study will help us understand how well we perform when home BP readings are sent to MyChart or shared by patients during clinic visits."

The study will be conducted in survey format. Respondents will have 20-40 seconds to respond to sets of simulated home BP readings. After estimating each set of readings, respondents will be asked if they believe the BP is high or normal.

"Participation will not affect performance evaluation, career advancement, or other employment-related decisions made by peers or supervisors," Dr. Vongpatanasin says. "Participants may withdraw at any time without penalty." ■

To learn more and to start the survey, which is designed to take less than 10 minutes, click [here](#).



NOTEWORTHY PUBLICATIONS

HEALTH

Treating High Blood Pressure May Reduce Dementia Risk, He and Colleagues Find

Jiang He, M.D., Ph.D., M.S., a Professor and Director of Implementation Research in the Department of Internal Medicine, and colleagues published the results of a phase 3 clinical trial involving nearly 34,000 patients that showed reducing high blood pressure significantly lowers the risk of dementia and cognitive impairment. The [study, published in *Nature Medicine*](#), emphasizes the importance of intensive blood pressure control to mitigate the global burden of dementia, which is projected to affect 152.8 million people by 2050.

The trial, conducted in rural China, showed that patients receiving anti-hypertensive medication and health coaching achieved better blood pressure control and reduced dementia risk by 15 percent. These findings advocate for widespread adoption of proven blood pressure interventions to combat the rising incidence of dementia worldwide. ■

Dr. He holds the S. Roger and Carolyn P. Horchow Chair in Cardiac Research, in Honor of Jere H. Mitchell, M.D.

Agusala, Colleagues Propose Including Innovation Work when Considering Promotions

Kartik Agusala, M.D., an Associate Professor in the Division of Cardiology, and colleagues published a [perspective piece in the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*](#) in which they propose that innovation-related work (medical devices, information technology, app development, etc.) be formally recognized in the academic promotion process.

“We feel that doing so would not only reward those faculty but also incentivize others to engage in this mission and maximize the success of academic innovation hubs,” Dr. Agusala says.

Traditionally, promotions have focused on clinical care, research, and education, measured by productivity, teaching metrics, publications, and grants, the authors write. However, more faculty are now engaging in innovation in IT, medical devices, and healthcare delivery, addressing complex challenges and bridging gaps between clinical practice, technology, and industry. Clinical innovation offers multiple benefits including revenue generation, new company formation, and enhanced institutional recognition.

“We suggest specific metrics that can be considered and hope this spurs a larger conversation around recognizing and supporting this career path within academia,” Dr. Agusala says.

Eric Peterson, M.D., M.P.H., a Professor in the Division of Cardiology, Vice Provost and Senior Associate Dean for Clinical Research, was a co-author. ■

Dr. Peterson holds the Adelyn and Edmund M. Hoffman Distinguished Chair in Medical Science.

VACCINATIONS

Kuppalli, OSPH Colleagues Note Increased Willingness Among U.S. Adults to Receive Mpox Vaccine

In light of ongoing mpox outbreaks in Africa, a recent survey by **Kutika Kuppalli, M.D.**, an Associate Professor in the Division of Infectious Diseases and Geographic Medicine, and colleagues in the O'Donnell School of Public Health (OSPH), [published in the journal *Vaccine*](#) reveals that 58 percent of U.S. adults are now willing to be vaccinated against the viral illness if recommended by their physician or health authority. This marks a significant increase from 2022, when only 46 percent expressed such willingness.

Healthcare workers remain the most trusted sources of information (73 percent), while trust in the federal government to provide factual information has risen to 58 percent.

“These results highlight the need for ongoing education among US adults to improve awareness of and vaccination intention for the mpox vaccine,” the researchers wrote. “The consistently high degrees of trust placed in healthcare professionals and officials should guide future communications about mpox and other infectious diseases, and reinforce the importance of leveraging trusted sources to share essential public health information.”

The findings underscore the essential role of trusted healthcare professionals and the federal government in disseminating accurate public health information and encouraging vaccination. ■

in case you missed it



PODCASTS

Williams Leads Discussion About David Wasserman

Kevin Williams, Ph.D., an Associate Professor in the Center for Hypothalamic Research and co-host of [DiabetesBio](#), the American Diabetes Association's monthly podcast for its flagship publication, *Diabetes*, discussed the life and legacy of David Wasserman, Ph.D., "a pioneer in metabolic research whose work transformed our understanding of exercise physiology, glucose metabolism, and diabetes."

The discussants described how Dr. Wasserman led the Vanderbilt Mouse Metabolic Phenotyping Center and helped set the gold standard for metabolic research and how his influence continues to shape the field today. ■

To listen to the segment on YouTube, click [here](#).

personnel updates



CLINICAL LEADERSHIP

Beckman Appointed Executive Clinical Director of Cardiovascular Services

Joshua Beckman, M.D, M.P.H., Professor and Chief of Vascular Medicine, has been appointed Executive Clinical Director of Cardiovascular Services.

"In this role, Dr. Beckman will be responsible for ensuring alignment with major Health System initiatives, collaborating closely with clinical chairs and UTSW clinical partners, and promoting smooth coordination of activities across the system, operating units, and regional centers," says **Jonathan Efron, M.D.**, a Professor of Surgery and Executive Vice President for Health System Affairs. "Additionally, he will act as a liaison for referring physicians, ensuring the cardiovascular service line remains attentive and responsive to their needs."

Dr. Beckman is nationally recognized for his leadership roles in major cardiovascular organizations, having served as President of the Society for Vascular Medicine, Chair of the American Heart Association's Peripheral Vascular Disease Council, and Chair of the AHA/ACC Joint Committee on Clinical Practice Guidelines. ■

Dr. Beckman holds the Gayle and Paul Stoffel Distinguished Chair in Cardiology.

happening today



CARDIOMETABOLIC RESEARCH

Kaiser Permanente's Ankeet Bhatt to Discuss Improving Cardiometabolic Care on April 29

Ankeet Bhatt, M.D., M.B.A., Sc.M., a Research Scientist at Kaiser Permanente, Associate Physician at The Permanente Medical Group, and Adjunct Professor at Stanford University, will present the [Cardiometabolic Lecture](#) on **Tuesday, April 29, at noon in D1.502**. His topic: "Applying Implementation and Behavioral Economic Science to Improve Cardiometabolic Care."

Dr. Bhatt earned a bachelor's degree in biological sciences at the University of Connecticut, where he obtained both medical and business training in a joint MD/MBA program. He completed his residency at Duke University, followed by fellowships in cardiovascular diseases and critical care medicine at the Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School. He then completed a research fellowship and earned a master's degree in epidemiology from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

Dr. Bhatt has several interests across cardiometabolic health, including the design and execution of large pragmatic clinical trials, with a particular focus on care delivery and implementation science.

this week



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

Sopirala to Present Measles Outbreak Webinar on April 30

Madhuri Sopirala, M.D., M.P.H., an Associate Professor in the Division of Infectious Disease and Geographic Medicine and Chief of Infection Prevention at Parkland Health, will participate in a Measles Outbreak webinar on Wednesday, April 30, at noon. The event, sponsored by the Texas Department of State Health Services, will include a panel of experts who will present current data on the measles outbreak in Texas, infection control precautions for measles in healthcare settings, and guidance for measles prevention, treatment, and post-exposure prophylaxis.

Continuing education credits for multiple disciplines will be offered for this activity.

[Event Registration](#)



Boston University's Tuhina Neogi to Discuss Gout on May 2

Tuhina Neogi, M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Medicine and Chief of Rheumatology at Boston University School of Medicine, will present the [Internal Medicine Grand Rounds](#) lecture on **Friday, May 2, at 8 a.m. in D1.502**. Her topic: "Gout 2025."

Dr. Neogi holds a bachelor's degree in biochemistry from McMaster University. She earned her medical degree at the University of Toronto and her doctorate in epidemiology from Boston University School of Public Health.

Dr. Neogi's research focuses primarily on risk factors for knee osteoarthritis and gout, pain mechanisms in knee osteoarthritis, and methodologic issues or relevance for rheumatic diseases.

She is past Chair of the FDA's Arthritis Advisory Committee and has served on the boards of the Osteoarthritis Research Society International (OARSI) and the Gout, Hyperuricemia, and Crystal-Associated Disease Network (G-CAN). Dr. Neogi has also served on committees for the American College of Rheumatology (ACR) and the International Association for the Study of Pain.

A recipient of the ACR's Henry Kunkel Young Investigator Award, she has also received the OARSI Clinical Research Award and the Robert Dawson Evans Research Mentoring Award. ■



Mennie, Wang to Present Research Findings

Amanda Mennie, M.D., a Research Fellow in the Division of Hematology and Oncology, and **Simeng Wang, M.D., Ph.D.**, a Research Fellow in the Division of Digestive and Liver Diseases, will present the Internal Medicine Research Conference on **Friday, May 2, at noon in D1.502**.

Dr. Mennie received her medical degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine. She then completed internal medicine residency training at UT Southwestern.

Dr. Wang will present, "Nutritional Regulation of Metabolic Genes is Dependent on Hepatocyte Location."

Dr. Wang received her medical degree from Fourth Military Medical University, where she also received her doctoral degree in digestive diseases. She then completed a postdoctoral research fellowship and internal medicine residency training at UT Southwestern. ■

Update in Internal Medicine



CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

Internists Can Receive MOC at Annual Update in Internal Medicine on May 3

The annual [Update in Internal Medicine](#) CME Conference is scheduled for **Saturday, May 3, from 7:45 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the T. Boone Pickens Auditorium**. The course, under the direction of **Brad Cutrell, M.D.**, and **Vlad Zaha, M.D., Ph.D.**, will offer practical advice on issues identified as frequent items for consultation and second opinions, as well as advances in applying new scientific techniques and technologies in translational medicine.

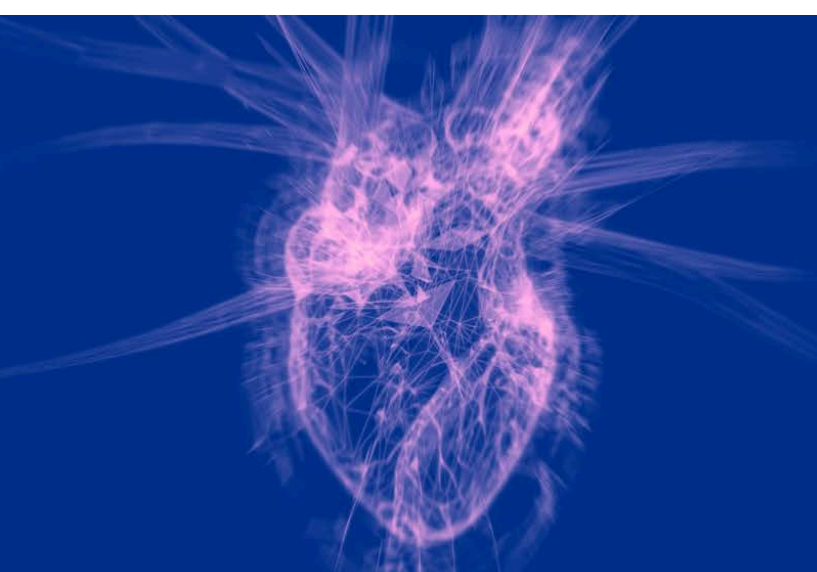
The one-day live event will again be offered as a hybrid learning experience, with synchronous in-person and online presentations in addition to pre-recorded on-demand content. The presentations will be available for up to one year after the conference, totaling 15 units of CME credit and the opportunity to apply for MOC within the timing requirements of the ABIM rules. ■

Other Noteworthy Lectures & Conferences This Week

- **Wednesday, April 30, 8 a.m.:** [Geriatrics Grand Rounds](#) with **Dr. Peter Jang** (General Internal Medicine) – “Current Trends and Challenges in Hospice Utilization”
- **Wednesday, April 30, 8 a.m.:** [GI Grand Rounds](#) with **Dr. Robert Schwartz** (Weill Cornell Medicine) – “Modeling Human Diseases Using Bioengineered Tissues”
- **Wednesday, April 30, Noon:** [Asian-Pacific Islander Alliance Lunch and Learn](#) with **Dr. Anand Rohatgi** (Cardiology) – “Empower Your Career: Coaching for Success”
- **Wednesday, April 30, Noon:** [Excellence in Immunology Lecture](#) with **Dr. Chengcheng Jin** (University of Pennsylvania) – “Dissecting the Role of Myeloid Cells in Cancer Immunity”

- Wednesday, April 30, Noon: [Psychiatry Grand Rounds](#) with Dr. Arthur C. Walascek (University of Wisconsin) – “Substance Use Disorders in Older Adults”
- Thursday, May 1, 8 a.m.: [Infectious Diseases Grand Rounds](#) with Dr. Anusha Govind (Infectious Diseases & Geographic Medicine) – “H.Pylori and the Order of Treatment”
- Thursday, May 1, Noon: [Renal Grand Rounds](#) with Dr. Matthew Sparks (Duke University) – “Preparing Fellows for the Future of Nephrology”
- Friday, May 2, Noon: [Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center Distinguished Lecture](#) with Dr. Elizabeth Chen (Molecular Biology) – “How Do Cancer Cells Make Invadopodia –Insights from Cell-Cell Fusion”
- Friday, May 2, 1 p.m.: [Endocrinology Grand Rounds](#) with Dr. Emily Zhang (Endocrinology) – “Weight Reduction, Body Composition, and Cardiometabolic Changes in Patients with Adrenal Adenomas Treated with GLP-1 or GIP/GLP-1 Receptor Agonists”

on the horizon



Heart Failure Symposium

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

Heart Failure Symposium Scheduled for May 10

The Heart Failure Symposium is scheduled for **Saturday, May 10, from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Clements University Hospital Education and Conference Center.**

Under the direction of **Maryjane Farr, M.D., M.Sc.**, Professor and Section Chief of Heart Failure, Mechanical Circulatory Support, and Heart Transplantation, and **Justin Grodin, M.D., M.P.H.**, Associate Professor and Medical Director of the Internal Medicine Clinical Trials Unit, the one-day event will offer state-of-the-art lectures and panel discussions on guideline-directed medical therapy, exercise testing, pulmonary hypertension in patients with heart failure, cardiogenic shock temporary and durable mechanical support device therapy, heart and multi-organ transplantation, cardiac amyloidosis, sarcoidosis, myocarditis, and adult congenital heart disease.

Attendees who successfully complete the course will receive 5 units of CME credit. ■

[Event Registration](#)

upcoming events

UT SOUTHWESTERN



WELLNESS

Faculty and APP Wellness Retreat Scheduled for June 6

The Office of Faculty Wellness will host a Faculty and APP Wellness Retreat on **Friday, June 6, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Pegasus Park**. The in-person event will focus on fostering wellness, humanism, and professional growth in academic medicine.

Melanie Sulistio, M.D., a Professor in the Division of Cardiology, will present the keynote address, detailing her finding joy, fulfillment, and purpose in medicine.

Directed by **Susan Matulevicius, M.D.**, a Professor in the Division of Cardiology and Associate Dean of Faculty Wellness, the retreat will include workshops, discussions, and activities designed to rejuvenate and inspire. **Bonnie Prokesch, M.D.**, an Associate Professor in the Division of Infectious Diseases and Geographic Medicine, will guide interactive workshops and discussions to promote humanism in action and relational resilience. ■

[Retreat Registration](#)

Look for the next *Medicine Minute* on **Tuesday, May 6, 2025**.
Share feedback and news items with us at IMNews@UTSouthwestern.edu

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