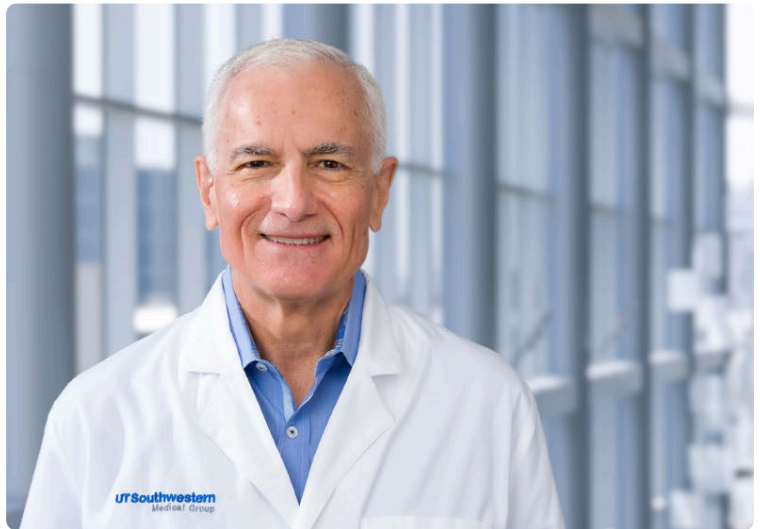
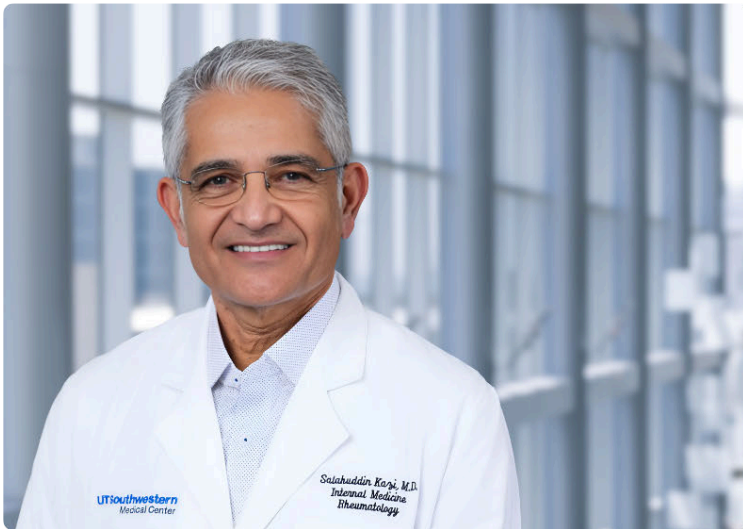


medicine minute

November 25, 2025

kudos



Kazi, Toto Selected for Shine Academy

In recognition of their dedication to health science education, the UT System's Kenneth I. Shine Academy of Health Science Education is inducting **Salahuddin "Dino" Kazi, M.D.**, and **Robert Toto, M.D.**, as new members during its annual Innovations in Health Science Education Conference, scheduled for Feb. 26-27 in Austin. They will be joined by **Shawn McClintock, Ph.D., M.S.C.S.**, a Professor of Psychiatry and Director of Research Training in the Clinical Psychology Doctoral Program.

"Being inducted into the Shine Academy is both humbling and inspiring," said Dr. Kazi, a Professor in the Division of Rheumatic Diseases and Vice Chair of Education. "Education is at the heart of what we do in medicine, and this honor reinforces my commitment to mentoring the next generation of physicians and advancing innovative approaches to learning."

Dr. Toto, a Professor in the Division of Nephrology and Associate Dean for Translational Science, expressed similar appreciation.

"It means a lot to me that UT Southwestern chose me as a nominee for the Shine Academy," he said. "I owe a lot to the entire UT Southwestern community for giving me the opportunity to become an effective educator, and I am honored to be accepted into the Academy to help fulfill its mission to support and promote excellence in all aspects of health science education, including educational research, scholarship and leadership."

Established in 2005, the academy is named after Dr. Kenneth I. Shine, former UT System executive vice chancellor of health affairs. Dr. Shine, who retired in 2013, championed many UT System-led enhancements in health care education and research, and served as interim chancellor for the UT System in 2008.

More than 207 UT System educators have been inducted into the academy, including 35 current and former faculty members from UT Southwestern. ■



Hong Named Co-Leader of SCCC Population Science and Cancer Control Program

The Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center (SCCC) has appointed **Arthur Hong, M.D., M.P.H.**, as co-Leader of the Population Science and Cancer Control (PS) Research Program, joining **Lindsay Cowell, Ph.D.**, in guiding program leadership. Together, they will oversee strategic planning, foster collaborations across research programs, recruit new members, review pilot project applications, organize research retreats, and ensure access to Shared Resources for program members.

The PS Research Program is a cornerstone of SCCC's NCI comprehensive cancer center designation, focusing on hypothesis-driven research across the cancer control continuum with an emphasis on vulnerable populations. Its work spans predictive markers for cancer risk and treatment response, multi-level factors influencing prevention and care delivery, and interventions to improve evidence-based cancer prevention and control, particularly for underserved communities and safety-net health systems.

Dr. Hong, an Associate Professor in the Division of General Internal Medicine, leads the SCCC Population Science Disease-Oriented Team (DOT). His research explores patient-clinician interactions, care delivery innovation, quality improvement, and health policy evaluation. He is a member of the Society of General Internal Medicine, American Society of Clinical Oncology, and Academy Health. ■



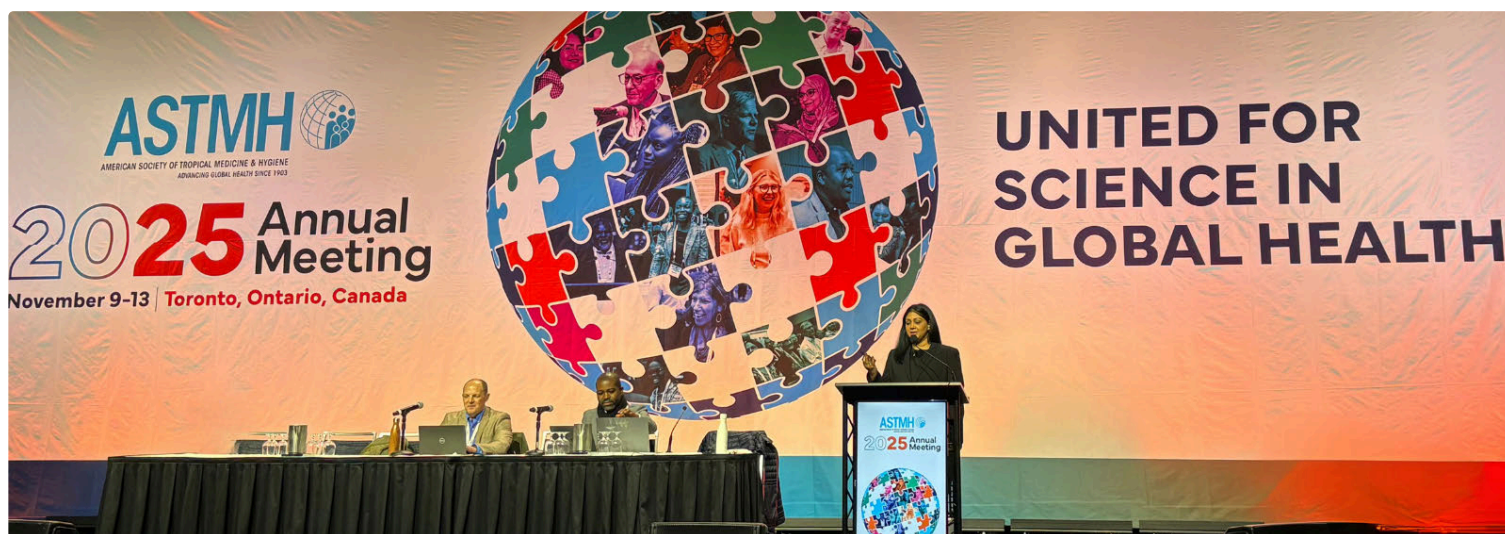
Levine Presents David Streeten Lecture at AAS Symposium

Benjamin Levine, M.D., a Professor in the Division of Cardiology and Director of the Institute for Exercise and Environmental Medicine at Texas Health Presbyterian Dallas, delivered the David Streeten Lecture at the 36th International Symposium of the American Autonomic Society.

His talk, "Orthostatic Intolerance and the Pathophysiology of the Upright Posture: Lessons from Astronauts and Patients with POTS," explored how research on cardiovascular adaptation in spaceflight informs treatment strategies for postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome (POTS) and related disorders. Drawing on decades of work with NASA and clinical populations, Dr. Levine highlighted exercise and fluid management as key interventions to counteract orthostatic intolerance.

The Streeten Lecture is the Society's highest honor, recognizing groundbreaking contributions to autonomic research. ■

Dr. Levine holds the Distinguished Professorship in Exercise Sciences at UT Southwestern and the S. Finley Ewing Chair for Wellness and the Harry S. Moss Heart Chair for Cardiovascular Research at Texas Health Presbyterian Dallas.



Kuppalli Co-Chairs Mpx International Symposium

Krutika Kuppalli, M.D., an Associate Professor in the Division of Infectious Diseases and Geographic Medicine, co-chaired a symposium on mpox at the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene annual meeting in Toronto and delivered a presentation focused on clinical management.

The session, “Mpox Without Borders: Global Trends, Breakthroughs, and Preparedness,” brought together an exceptional panel of speakers, including leaders from academia, Africa CDC, and the World Health Organization (WHO). Presentations covered the emerging epidemiology of mpox, novel strategies for diagnostics, critical aspects of clinical management, strategies for vaccination, and highlighted research priorities for mpox, particularly in regions most affected by the outbreak.

During her service with the WHO, Dr. Kuppalli was a member of the Incident Management Support Team for mpox at the onset of a multinational outbreak and played a key role in developing educational resources and technical documents, including normative guidance for surveillance, public health, and diagnostics. She also was part of the writing team for the clinical management and infection prevention and control guidelines. During the Public Health Emergency of International Concern, she contributed to the proceedings of the International Health Regulations (IHR) Emergency Committee and assisted in drafting temporary recommendations issued by the Director General, providing clinical input, supporting missions to Nigeria and the Central African Republic, and helping launch the global mpox partnership which aimed to identify knowledge gaps and foster collaboration among stakeholders. ■

Dr. Kuppalli is a member of the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases mpox guidelines committee.

Internal Medicine News Portal

in case you missed it

News and Digital Media Featuring Internal Medicine Colleagues

- [Science in 60+: Cancer's Last Stand](#) (via *Center Times+*, with Kelley Newcomer, M.D.)
- [Insightful Discussion and Cultural Displays Highlight First Nations Celebration](#) (via *Center Times+*, with Timothy Brown, M.D., M.S.C.E.)
- [REF's Warnings on Thimerosal in Vaccines Threaten to Instill Doubt Overseas, Experts Fear](#) (via *STAT*, with Krutika Kuppalli, M.D.)
- [Spotlight Video: UTSW's Cancer Genetics Program and Genetic Cancer Prevention Clinic](#) (via Vimeo, with Luke Engelking, M.D.)
- [Underlying Cause of Gulf War Illness Confirmed in UTSW Study](#) (via UTSW Newsroom, with Robert Haley, M.D.)

- [Microprotein Plays Vital Role in Fat Accumulation](#) (via UTSW Newsroom, with Philipp Scherer, Ph.D., Chao Li, Ph.D., and Xue-Nan Sun, Ph.D.)
- [Nine Diet Fads to Try \(or Skip Completely\) in the New Year](#) (via MedBlog, with Bethany Agusala, M.D.)
- [CDC Webpage No Longer Refutes Link Between Vaccines, Autism](#) (via Healio, with Krutika Kuppalli, M.D.)

need to know



Clinics, Academic Offices, and Labs Closed on Nov. 27 and 28

Thursday, Nov. 27, and Friday, Nov. 28, are [designated holidays](#) for UT Southwestern faculty, employees, and learners, in observance of Thanksgiving. All UTSW clinics, central administration, academic offices, and research labs will be closed. Hospitals will be fully operational with the appropriate staff in support areas. ■

If you have questions about the holiday policy, call Human Resources at 214-648-0821.

save the date



Annual GI Symposium Scheduled for Feb. 21

Faculty members from the Division of Digestive and Liver Diseases will present their annual "What's New in GI" symposium on **Saturday, Feb. 21, at the Marriott Dallas Las Colinas**. The one-day, in-person CME course, directed by **David Fudman, M.D., Neha Patel, M.D., and Tarek Sawas, M.D.**, is designed for gastroenterologists, GI surgeons, internal medicine physicians, family practice providers, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and other healthcare providers with an interest in gastroenterology and hepatology. Attendees will be provided with practical information that can be applied to their clinical practice. Discussions will include the latest updates on recognizing symptoms and using current data to establish diagnoses and formulate appropriate treatment plans for the management of gastrointestinal diseases. ■

For more information, click [here](#).

one last thing



Former Resident Nathan Gray Presents Conference

Graphic artist **Nathan Gray, M.D.**, an Assistant Professor of Palliative Medicine at Johns Hopkins University Medical Center and Associate Director for Outpatient Palliative Care at Johns Hopkins Hospital, presented the residency noon conference earlier this month, representing a "full-circle" moment for the former UTSW medical student and resident.

After completing fellowship training in hospice and palliative care medicine at Duke University, Dr. Gray joined the faculty at Johns Hopkins, where he continued pursuing a talent he developed during his residency: using visual storytelling to process the emotional weight of patient care and make complex medical issues more accessible.

"Some things are hard to put into words, and sometimes a picture goes a long way," he said.

Dr. Gray's work has been published in mainstream publications such as *The Los Angeles Times* and *The Washington Post*, as well as peer-reviewed professional journals, including the *AMA Journal of Ethics* and the *Annals of Internal Medicine*. ■



Jon Garinn
Medicine Minute Editor

Look for the next *Medicine Minute* on **Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2025**.

Want to access an item in a previous edition of the newsletter? [Check our *Medicine Minute* archive.](#)

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