Family Matters

Your updates from the University of Alberta
Department of Family Medicine.

May 2017

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Message from the Chair

This month’s newsletter has a number of items worthy of note. I’d like to highlight two: changes in and exciting things happening in the undergraduate program, and the same in the Care of the Elderly (COE) program.

In our undergraduate education program, Dr. Shirley Schipper is moving on to bigger and better things (see the announcement of her appointment as vice-dean for education), but leaving the undergraduate program in very capable hands. Dr. Lillian Au will be taking over as director of the undergraduate program bringing a lot of energy and ideas. We’re looking forward to the program’s continued growth. Speaking of which, you can help! See the year 1, year 2, and clerkship opportunities listed in this edition. The LCE and patient immersion experience are particularly worthy, so pitch in with one or both if you can.

In CoE, Dr. Jamieson’s “People of Dementia” website is a moving experience. I won’t describe it, but rather urge you to experience it yourself. Also take a look at the interview with Dr. Leung, for a sample of yet another of the people and programs that make our CoE division the best in Canada!

- Dr. Lee Green

Shirley Schipper Named Vice Dean Education

Congratulations to Shirley Schipper who has been named the new Vice-Dean Education with the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry. Her new role will commence July 1, 2017. Dr. Schipper’s various roles in the Department of Family Medicine have included director of the family medicine postgraduate program education program, and interim director of the family medicine undergraduate education program and medical and academic director of the Grey Nuns Family Medicine Centre. She is currently the director of assessment for the department.

On the national level, she is a director of the board for the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC), a member of the group of chairs for accreditation and a member of the accreditation committee.

Our thanks to Dr, Schipper for her work in the department, and we look forward to a continuing relationship with her in the new role at the Faculty level.

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Lillian Au to the role of director of undergraduate medical education for the department.
UNDERGRADUATE UPDATE

The 2016-2017 academic year is coming to an end and the Undergraduate Team would like to thank all of the community physicians and faculty members who participated in the physicianship communication sessions, Longitudinal Clinical Experience in Family Medicine, Yr. 3 Clerkship rotations and student electives.

The feedback that we have received from the students shows that early experience with family medicine physicians increases students’ interest in family medicine as a career.

Recruitment has begun for the 2017-2018 academic year. If you have not provided your availability yet, please do so via the links below by Friday, June 16, 2017. Also, if you know of any physicians who are interested in teaching, please ask them to contact Erika Siroski at erika.siroski@ualberta.ca for more information.

YEAR 1

Every patient is a PERSON WITH A STORY
SHARE YOURS AND HELP US IMPROVE HOW WE CARE FOR PATIENTS

We are seeking volunteers to meet with medical students and share their experiences of life with chronic illness. By volunteering you can make an important contribution to improving medical education and patient care.

We hope you’ll join us. To apply, please contact:
Office of Undergraduate Medical Education
Tel: 780-492-1311
Email: patient.immersion.experience@ualberta.ca
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Year 2

We could learn a lot from you

Who is eligible? Patients with chronic illness and regular contact with the healthcare system, who live within a 40 km radius of the University of Alberta.

What will I do? Once every two months, you will visit with students in your home to talk about your experiences as a patient. Once per year, the students will accompany you to a medical appointment.

What are the benefits? As a mentor, you have a unique opportunity to participate in and influence medical education. Your contribution will help future doctors better understand the experience of living with illness and improve patient care.

Clerkship

POSTGRADUATE UPDATE

People of Dementia Website Launched

In 2016 Dr. Jeffrey Jamieson, a Care of the Elderly resident, spearheaded an initiative to share meaningful stories about people living with dementia.

The resulting website, People of Dementia, provides a glimpse into the lives of individuals with dementia, as well as their caregivers and loved ones. People of Dementia offers the opportunity to bring appreciation and understanding to how this disease affects individuals and their social network, contributing to ending the stigma toward dementia. Meet the real people living with the disease at People of Dementia.com

Residents Receive Recognition

Congratulations to the Department of Family Medicine residents recognized at the Grey Nuns Medical Staff Association 2017 Spring Banquet.

Joanne Tseng: Resident of the Year, Medicine
Jennifer Olsen: Resident of the Year, Family Medicine
Angelina De Cicco: Resident of the Year, PCHT Team
Breanne Eksteen: Resident of the Year, Pediatrics
Heather Craig: Resident of the Year, Obstetrics & Gynecology
Mila Luchak: Resident of the Year, Palliative Care
Jordan Leung: Resident of the Year, Geriatrics
**Introducing Karen Leung**

In November of 2016, Karen Leung joined the Department of Family Medicine in the role of Care of the Elderly Education and Palliative Care Coordinator. We spoke to Karen about her work, and how she chose her path in medicine.

**Tell us about yourself.**
I was born and raised in Calgary. I attended the University of Calgary for most of my schooling, but did residency in the University of Alberta family medicine program. I was a resident at the North East Community Health Clinic and can’t say enough good things about my time there - I loved it!

My undergraduate degree was in arts (psychology with honours). I originally wanted to be a clinical child psychologist and was most interested in working with children with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, but it was very privatized industry at the time, which would have made access to services for these disadvantaged children very difficult. Because of that, I thought I’d try to apply to medicine where I might have a greater chance of affecting change. It was total about-face two months before graduation! I followed my interest in research, and I enrolled in Cumming School of Medicine Leaders in Medicine joint MD-MSc program at the University of Calgary, and I completed my masters degree with Neil Drummond focusing on patients and caregivers expectations of dementia care in Canada.

**How did you become involved in care of the elderly and palliative care? Was it always an interest of yours?**
I suspect my story is similar to that of many who pursue careers in medicine; there is a personal story behind my decision. My grandfather had a stroke when I was in my undergraduate program, and developed progressive dementia afterwards. It was a long 10-year journey for my family, as we were very close with my grandparents. This altered my path, and I started working with health services because I wondered how these services for seniors could be improved. But I always knew if I did end up becoming a physician it would be in family medicine.

**What is the most rewarding part of the work you do?**
That’s easy: working with a fantastic interdisciplinary team of nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, dieticians, recreational therapists, a social worker and a transition coordinator. Aging, frailty, and dementia affect so many aspects of day to day functioning, and having the expertise of other team members contributes so much. I’m fortunate to work with such a caring and knowledgeable interdisciplinary group.

**If a medical student asked what it’s like to work in family medicine and with care of the elderly and palliative care, what is the most important thing you would want them to know?**
Every day is different and interesting in geriatrics and family medicine! We often have to take care of both the patient as well as their families and have to navigate often complex family dynamics. The medicine is also complex because our patients are quite frail and can get acutely sick and need urgent investigation and stabilization, which makes working in a tertiary rehabilitation hospital interesting and challenging. Finally, working in geriatric rehabilitation really gives us a chance to get to know our patients: seniors who have seen so much in their lifetimes and share such interesting stories. I think I learn something new from each patient every single day, as they really are the experts because of their own experiences and narratives and willingness to share what health and aging means to them.

**What’s next for you?**
In addition to my care of the elderly work, I am also involved with palliative care education. In addition to that, I am currently working with Lillian Au and Sarah Burton-McLeod on case-based teaching for undergrad years 3 & 4 doing clinical rotations, and hoping to collect data on the student feedback for program evaluation. I continue to be interested in research, and are working a few meta-analysis examining delirium management, warfarin-associated drug interactions, and adverse cognitive effects of hypoglycemia in the elderly.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Family Medicine Division of Care of the Elderly, or supplementary care of the elderly training, please visit the [Division of Care of the Elderly webpage](#).
RESEARCH UPDATE

Congratulations Amy Swearingen
Congratulations to Amy Swearingen, Research Financial Administrator who on May 5, 2017, graduated with a Bachelor in Business Administration (BBA) degree from NAIT. In September, Amy will begin pursuing certification as a professional accountant.

Welcome to Yvonne Marcoux
Welcome to Yvonne Marcoux, research assistant and newest member of the BedMed Team. Yvonne will be working alongside her colleagues in University Terrace.

Welcome Dr. Liz Sturgess
Dr. Liz Sturgiss is an Australian family doctor who has traveled to the University of Alberta to work with Associate Professor Denise Campbell-Scherer until the end of October this year.

Dr. Sturgiss was awarded an Endeavour Research Fellowship by the Australian Government and her project here will focus on obesity management in primary care using cognitive task analysis under the guidance of Professor Lee Green. Dr. Sturgiss works clinically as a family doctor in Canberra, where she has a strong interest in chronic disease management and mental health. She is also a part time lecturer in general practice at the Australian National University (ANU) Medical School.

She commenced her PhD at the ANU in February 2015 looking at the management of obesity by general practitioners. Liz has been a fellow of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners since 2012. In 2014 she became a Founding Fellow of Clinical Forensic Medicine (RCPA). Liz completed her undergraduate medical degree at the University of Newcastle, NSW in 2003. She has since completed a Master of Public Health at the University of New South Wales and a Master of Forensic Medicine at Monash University, Victoria. So far, Liz has enjoyed her short time in Canada, especially the beautiful snow that made the first week so memorable. She has traveled to Edmonton with her husband, who is an occupational therapist, and her two young sons. They are all looking forward to experiencing Canadian life over the course of this year.

Welcome to Our 2017 Research Summer Students and Staff
The department is once again pleased to welcome the students and researchers working on a variety of research initiatives over the summer months:

Mao Ding will be working with Oksana Babenko. Mao’s project, Orientation toward lifelong learning of medical students and practicing physicians is supported by an undergraduate student grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC).

Jason Shergill, Mostafa Abbasi and Ruojin Bu, all summer students with MARD, will be working on a Systematic Review of Factors associated with the Transportation Needs of Older Adults in Rural and Urban Environments.

Linda Xie will be working under the supervision of Marjan Abbasi, Sheny Khera, and Bonnie Dobbs assisting with various research components of the Seniors’ Community Hub project.

Adam Mullan is working with the CBAS team on a project that examines best practices in completing periodic progress reports for family medicine residents.

Nikita-Kiran Singh will be working with Louanne Keenan on Evaluating a simulation-based quality improvement (QI) workshop for residents.

Badi Jabbour is a 2nd year undergraduate student currently pursuing a bachelor of science. He will be joining Dr. Campbell-Scherer’s 5AsT Research Team over the course of the summer to assist the team with a number of ongoing projects designed to improve obesity prevention and management.

They will be joined by Sharon Liu and Carter Smith (with Scott Garrrison), Kirsten Bester (with Christina Korownyk), and Elizabeth Chelsey and Rebecca Matthew (with Doug Klein).
Publications


The Mobile Lab Open House

Join Dr. Nicola Cherry, Dr. Bonnie Dobbs and Dr. Adrian Wagg and see how the MobLab enables researchers and communities to work together to conduct studies with ‘hard to reach’ segments of the population, address health questions across Alberta and bring research capacity closer to the community.

RSVP to djadhav@ualberta.ca or 780-248-1969

Thursday, June 22, 2017

Opening at 9:00 am

Open House: 9:20—11:00

Corbett Hall Parking Lot L, South East Corner

Refreshments and Snacks will be served.
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Family Medicine Grand Rounds: Global health

Join us on June 15 for the next Grand Rounds, organized by family medicine residents. Speakers for this event are Dr. Stan Houston, professor of medicine in the Divisions of Infectious Disease and General Internal Medicine and in the School of Public Health; Yvonne Chiu, one of the founding members of the Multicultural Health Brokers Co-op in Edmonton; and Dr. Jill Konkin, Associate Dean and Division Director, Community Engagement in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry.

Thursday, June 15
08:00 a.m. - 09:30 a.m.
Bernard Snell Hall

Certificate in Patient Safety and Quality Management Course

Registration opens June 5, 2017
Visit the Patient Safety Course website for more information about the course and how to register.

Wilderness Grand Rounds

There are two more wilderness grand rounds events left in the academic year, including a special event.

Monday, June 19, 4:30 p.m.: Dr. Neal Pollock presenting on the topic of Advances in Diving and Diving Medicine

SPECIAL EVENT Tuesday, June 20, 2:30 p.m.- 4:30 p.m.: Dr. Neal Pollock, Acting Editor of Wilderness & Environmental Medicine, will present Excelling Through Peer Review: Strategies for Authors and Reviewers.

All session will be held in Classroom D, University Hospital. Wilderness Grand Rounds is open to all—medical staff, residents and students.

2017 Pediatric Update

November 2—4, 2017
University of Alberta (Lister Centre and Edmonton Health Clinic Academy)
Registration is now open!
This year’s conference will feature topics such as asthma medication management, abdominal pain and caring for families after the death of a child. This conference will be of interest to family physicians and residents, and other health care professionals who work with children.

Review and Certification of Programs Addressing Opioid Prescribing and Management

On Monday May 8, McMaster’s Michael G. DeGroote National Pain Centre released the 2017 Guideline for Opioids for Chronic Non-Cancer Pain. As a result, the CFPC will be lifting the hold on the review and certification of Mainpro+® credit programs on the subject of opioid prescribing and management. It is expected that program providers will refer to and utilize this new guideline in the development and delivery of activities on this subject.

Providers of currently approved programs are advised to update program content to reflect these new guidelines and recommendations. The CFPC will review any required changes at no charge. The guideline is available in French and English on the McMaster University website http://nationalpaincentre.mcmaster.ca/guidelines.html and linked on the CFPC site. The guideline is also available in an interactive format on the MAGIC website and mobile app https://www.magicapp.org/

Questions or concern regarding the new guideline or the implementation of this guideline into program delivery can be directed to the certification team at certplus@cfpc.ca.
Family Medicine in the News

Doug Klein appeared on Global News to discuss the CHANGE Program. You can watch the clip here.

Marjan Abbasi, a member of the Department of Family Medicine Division of Care of Elderly, was interviewed by Alberta Primetime about her work, including the new Seniors Community Hub Initiative. Click the links to watch the interview and lead-in segment.

NAAFP Request for Proposals Reminder

The fund management committee of the Northern Alberta Academic Family Medicine Fund has issued a call for proposals. Funding can be used for:
- educational infrastructure;
- awarding prizes;
- research by department faculty members, residents, students and trainees;
- research and personal development activities; and
- any other educational, research and/or administrative activity which the fund management committee deems advisable for the general education and/or research purposes of the department.

The deadline for submission is midnight, June 30, 2017. Contact danica.erickson@ualberta.ca for an application form.

COMMUNICATION TIP

Is the word ‘dean’ supposed to be capitalized? The answer is a firm “sometimes”.

Do you wonder why certain titles in University of Alberta publications are sometimes capitalized and sometimes not capitalized? You are not alone, and there is help! The University of Alberta’s Marketing & Communications department has developed the University of Alberta Editorial Style Guide, which has been available since 2014, to assist university staff tasked with non-academic writing.

The Editorial Style Guide can shed light on many of your questions about capitalization, abbreviations and even spacing between letters. You can download a copy of the style guide from the Marketing & Communications Toolkit page.

What does the style guide recommend regarding the word ‘dean’? The recommendation is:

*dean, dean of arts
Per CP style, do not capitalize occupational titles after the individual’s name or as an indirect reference. Capitalize if used as a formal title preceding the name.
Example: Katy Campbell, dean of the Faculty of Extension, won an award this week.
Today, Dean Joseph Doucet appointed a new chair of the Alberta MBA program.

*University of Alberta Editorial Style Guide, p. 7

Visit our website at www.ualberta.ca/medicine/departments/family-medicine

About FAMILY MATTERS

Family Matters is the monthly Department of Family Medicine newsletter highlighting the work of department faculty, staff and researchers. If you have news or information for Family Matters, please send it to danica.erickson@ualberta.ca.