



GW Medicine Notes

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Re-Start DC Launch Success!

Sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) is a leading cause of death in the U.S. claiming the lives of more than 300,000 people each year. Victims of SCA have less than a 7% chance of survival. In response to these alarming statistics the Richard B. and Lynne V. Cheney Cardiovascular Institute created the ReStart DC program to raise awareness about the critical need for broad access to automated external defibrillators (AED).

On June 11, 2009 ReStart DC was officially launched at Holy Comforter-St. Cyprian Roman Catholic Church in SE CD where host Lynne Cheney presented Philips HeartStart AEDs to the leaders of several DC community organizations. In total ReStart DC will donate 200 AEDs to organizations serving low-income communities in the DC metro area. The program also provides training, medical oversight and direction.

The vision of ReStart DC is to make AEDs as readily available as fire extinguishers to maximize chance of survival for people who suffer SCA. Early defibrillation (within three to five minutes) with an AED restores normal heart rhythm and significantly increases survival rates.

To join the fight against SCA and help ReStart DC place AEDs in low-income DC communities go to www.ReStartDC.org for information.



From the Chairman

What's the big deal? All that needs to be done is to insure 40-50 million uninsured (depending on if you count illegal aliens or not); pay for the increasing expense of health care; not change the current system; and show that you can save money by doing this. And do it in the next few months.

Let's dissect this problem to make it even easier. Poof, you are now insured, how hard was that? You have basic health care coverage. You will magically be assigned to some imaginary health care provider to keep you healthy (granted the provider may be within 1000 miles of your location). It is estimated that for every 100 miles from your location you have to travel to see a provider, health care costs would be reduced by 5% (since you won't go). However, this does cap out somewhere around the 250 mile mark. Estimated savings would be millions, just by keeping people on buses and out of the Emergency Room.

Next, do we insure illegals? Seems like quite a reward for sneaking into this country doesn't it? However, the pay back is that they go to the back of the line (wasn't that the mantra of the last election) and are assigned only spiritual advisors and homeopathic providers to provide their primary care. That would do more to decrease illegal immigration than any fence the government would build. Estimated savings; thousands of souls will be saved.

As for paying for the increase in the cost of health care, don't! Doesn't anyone remember the 50's and 60's? Who was dissatisfied with health care back then? When did this discussion ever arise? The answer is to have more important things to think about. So bring back the cold war and start people once again building bomb shelters and hiding under desks. If you think you may have only hours to live before the big one is dropped, who is going to worry about preventive care? If we let Iran have the bomb the cost savings in health care could be enormous.

Finally, rather than change the current system let's just tweak it a little. Why shouldn't insurance companies make billions of dollars of profit and pay their executives gross salaries and bonuses. Shouldn't they benefit from gouging the American public into paying unseemly sums, dropping those that have the audacity to get sick and denying coverage to anyone with pre-existing conditions? After all we live in a capitalistic society and the last thing we would want is socialized medicine. It would destroy our entire way of life; didn't we learn anything from Medicare? What if we allowed individuals to take turns being the CEO of an insurance company. How hard could it be to deny payments, delay payments and constantly change the rules to keep people from requesting payments? Savings would be non-existent but more people would now be able to afford the cost. For example, in 2006 (before his sanction from the SEC) United Health CEO Dr. William McGuire received \$1.6 BILLION worth of options (NOT including salary). If we round off his total compensation to a conservative 2 billion and we switch CEO's every 30 seconds each CEO would get \$1,902.59 which, with your company discount, should pay for your health insurance. This would cover 1,051,200 people and although this may be the worst example, it is not the only. The relatively small Blue Cross of North Carolina paid its top 5 executives over \$10 million dollars and *earned* \$200 million in profit LAST YEAR. Given, that there are over 50 individual Blue Cross companies in the US, you do the math. Is this really so hard?

Alan G. Wasserman, M.D.

Department of Medicine

August 2009 Grand Rounds

Aug 6 *"Emerging Risk Factors for CAD - Are We There Yet?"*

Lisa W. Martin, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Division of Cardiology
Department of Medicine
The George Washington University Medical Faculty Associates

Aug 13 *"Integrative Medicine - Patient Centered Care"*

Mikhail Kogan, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Division of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine
Department of Medicine
The George Washington University Medical Faculty Associates

Aug 20 *"An Update on the Newest Advances and Patient Communication Strategies in COPD"*

Sanjay Sethi, MD
Professor, Department of Medicine
Chief, Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care & Sleep Medicine
University of Buffalo, SUNY
Section Chief, Division of Pulmonary Critical Care & Sleep Medicine
Western New York VA Health Care System
Buffalo, New York

Aug 27 *"High Risk Pregnancy"*

John Larsen, MD, FACOG, FACMG
Professor of Obstetrics & Gynecology
Chairman, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology
The George Washington University Medical Faculty Associates

The George Washington University Medical Center (GWUMC) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians. GWUMC designates this continuing medical education activity on an hour-for-hour basis in Category I of the Physician's Recognition Award of the American Medical Association.

Cardiology Grand Rounds

**Cardiology Grand Rounds
Cancelled Until September**

The "Line-up" for August

ADMITTING RESIDENT (202) 715-6034 (CELL)
PAGER ACCESS (202) 414-7777 or (800) MFA-5144
or in-house (82)

WHITE TEAM	(202) 715-5669	Beeper
Jeannie Yu		741-0346
Garrett Luetgten		741-0238
Mohamed Sultan		002-0602
YELLOW TEAM	(202) 715-6041	Beeper
Pooja Mehta		002-0131
Steven Singer		741-0126
James Fitzpatrick		002-0841
GREEN TEAM	(202) 715-6062	Beeper
Preethi Sidhu		741-0343
Kristin Julius		002-0872
Jordan Gross		002-0838
RED TEAM	(202) 715-6039	Beeper
Sara Wikstrom		741-0262
Nils Schnor		002-0645
BLUE TEAM	(202) 715-6156	Beeper
Hatanyah Siegel		741-0424
Mahsa Tehrani		002-0627
Julie Dorfman		741-0259
SILVER TEAM	(202) 715-6040	Beeper
Khaled Alswat		741-0347
Helen Park		741-0433
Ehab El Bahesh		002-0838
PURPLE TEAM	(202) 715-6042	Beeper
Amber Wobbekind		741-0119
Khalid Alqadi		002-0833
Magley Meghan		741-1634
GOLD TEAM	(202) 715-6044	

Resident Lecture Series

August 2009 Noon Conference

Aug 3	Primary Care Lecture Series
Aug 4	"Asthma & PFTs" - Dr. Janine Van Lancker
Aug 5	"Quick Hits" - Dr. Sian Spurney
Aug 6	Medicine Grand Rounds
Aug 7	"Antiphospholipid Syndrome" - Dr. Mandana Hashefi
Aug 10	Primary Care Lecture Series
Aug 11	Jeopardy
Aug 12	"The Diabetic Foot" - Dr. Michael Stempel
Aug 13	Medicine Grand Rounds
Aug 14	"Inflammatory Myopathies" - Dr. Lisa Rider
Aug 17	Primary Care Lecture Series
Aug 18	M & M
Aug 19	"Delirium" - Dr. Lorenzo Norris
Aug 20	Medicine Grand Rounds
Aug 21	"Osteoporosis" - Dr. Mandana Hashefi
Aug 24	Primary Care Lecture Series
Aug 25	"Drug Sensitivity" - Dr. Richard Nicklas
Aug 26	"The Agitated Patient" - Dr. Lorenzo Norris
Aug 27	Medicine Grand Rounds
Aug 28	"SLE" - Dr. James Katz
Aug 31	Primary Care Lecture Series

Please Help Us Welcome the Department's New Faculty

Please join us in welcoming the newest members of the Department of Medicine.

Dr. Matthew Chandler joined the Division of Gastroenterology & Liver Diseases on July 20, 2009 after completing his GI fellowship here at GWU in June. Prior to his fellowship Dr. Chandler was a chief medical resident at the George Washington University Hospital. He first came to GW for his internal medicine residency in 2002 after receiving his medical degree from Emory University. Born in Chattanooga, Tennessee, he received his Bachelor's degree from Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee.

Dr. Chandler was elected to AOA Medical Honor Society as a resident. He has published in the GI literature regarding Inflammatory Bowel Disease, which is one of his primary areas of interest. He is board certified in Internal Medicine and board eligible in Gastroenterology. He completed the Disney marathon in 2001 and is an Eagle Scout.

Dr. Marc O. Siegel, joined the Division of Infectious Diseases on August 1, 2009, after completing his ID fellowship here at GWU in June. Born in Munich, Germany, Dr. Siegel received his undergraduate degree in Economics from Georgetown University where he was a Gold Medalist in the Intercollegiate Rowing Association. He received his medical degree from Georgetown University as well, being elected to AOA Medical Honor Society as a medical student.

After completing his residency in Internal Medicine at Georgetown University Medical Center in 2001, Dr. Siegel established an internal medicine practice in York, Maine. He expanded the practice to include two additional physicians and five fulltime staff before leaving in 2007 for his fellowship at GWU. Dr. Siegel has had a number of poster presentations and articles published during his fellowship. He is board certified in Internal Medicine and board eligible in Infectious Diseases. He speaks German.

To make an appointment with Dr. Chandler or Dr. Siegel please call: (202) 741-3333.

Dr. Cyrus Katzen May 1, 1918 - July 12, 2009

Dr. Cyrus Katzen, benefactor of the Dr. Cyrus and Myrtle B. Katzen Cancer Research Center, among many other worthy causes, passed away on July 12, at his home. Dr. Katzen was raised in the District and was trained as a dental surgeon at Georgetown University. Early in his career he made significant contributions by inventing a high-speed automatic x-ray developing machine. Later he became a real estate developer, largely responsible for Tysons Corner and Crystal City. He built the Embassy Row Hotel on Massachusetts Avenue and the Culmore Shopping Center in Baileys Crossroads where he maintained offices. In 2005 he and his wife Myrtle donated an estimated \$20 million in cash and art to American University for what became the Katzen Art Center.

In 2008 Dr. and Mrs. Katzen gave an unprecedented \$10 million gift to the GW MFA for the Dr. Cyrus and Myrtle B. Katzen Cancer Research Center, which has allowed the MFA to achieve the goal of establishing a world class cancer center and will continue to reap benefits for cancer patients well into the future.

Dr. Katzen was a generous contributor to numerous community organizations including CentroNia, which serves low-income children, youth and families and The Lab School, which provides an arts-based education for bright children with learning disabilities. Dr. Katzen was a loving family man with a great sense of humor who forged lifelong relationships with his patients and colleagues. He was one of a kind.

In Remembrance of Suzanne Schuck

Many of you already know that Suzanne Schuck passed away on Monday, July 27, 2009. She was one of those wonderful people with whom you feel blessed having been able to meet and work with. She had been with the GW community since 1982 and a valued member of the Infectious Diseases Division since June of 1991.

Suzanne was a truly remarkable person who excelled in her work and made the MFA a better place for us all. She was a tireless worker who always had a good word or a smile. The fact that she was so competent led to her recent appointment as co-director of the MFA's research endeavors.

She battled her recent illness with courage and conviction and all of us were elated when for a time it seemed she had conquered her disease. It was not to be and we will miss her dearly. The family is asking that any donations be made to the GWU Medical Faculty Associates Katzen Cancer Center. Checks can be made payable to the Katzen Cancer Center 2150 Pennsylvania Ave. NW Suite 1-200 Washington DC 20037. Please specify that your donation is in honor of Suzanne.

She will not be soon or easily forgotten.

Rheumatology Review Course August 2009

Thursdays 8:00 am - 9:00 am Ross Hall 104
Questions? Call (202) 741-2488

- Aug 6 *Rheumatology Review Course: MSK-Radiology Part II*
Kathleen Brindle, MD, Assistant Professor of Radiology
- Aug 6 Didactic Sessions (1:30 - 3:30 p.m., GW Hospital, Ground)
- Aug 7 *Rheumatology Review Course at Noon Conference*
Mandana Hashefi, MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine
- Aug 13 *Rheumatology Review Course: Psoriatic Arthritis*
Shari Diamond, MD
- Aug 13 Didactic Sessions (1:30 - 3:30 p.m., GW Hospital, Ground)
- Aug 14 *Rheumatology Review Course at Noon Conference*
Lisa Rider, MD, Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine
- Aug 20 *Rheumatology Review Course:
Inflammatory Myopathies - Histologic Features*
Robert Jones, MD
- Aug 20 Didactic Sessions (1:30 - 3:30 p.m., GW Hospital, Ground)
- Aug 21 *Rheumatology Review Course at Noon Conference*
Mandana Hashefi, MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine
- Aug 27 *Rheumatology Review Course: Sjogren Syndrome*
James Katz, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine
- Aug 27 Didactic Sessions (1:30 - 3:30 p.m., GW Hospital, Ground)
- Aug 28 *Rheumatology Review Course at Noon Conference*
James Katz, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine

Kudos & Congratulations

Kudos ... to **Dr. Paul Silver**, Associate Professor, Division of General Internal Medicine, who was named the GWU Hospital Attending Physician of the Month for July 2009, and **Dr. Raziuddin Ali**, PGY3, who was named GWU Hospital Resident of the Month for July 2009.

More kudos ... to **Dr. Shari Maletsky-Smith**, PGY3, for whom we received a letter of praise for her dedication and professionalism while attending to a patient waiting for transfer to the ICU. Well done!

Congratulations ... to **Dr. Nicole Lurie**, Clinical Professor of Medicine, who was confirmed by the U.S. Senate in July as Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response for the Department of Health & Human Services.



Congratulations ... On July 24th **Dr. Kalpana (Jain) Gupta**, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Division of General Internal Medicine, and her husband Amit welcomed their son, Shivan Gupta. The Guptas couldn't be happier with the arrival of their beautiful (6 lb, 10 oz, 19 inch) baby boy!



See you next month! The Editor

The George Washington University Medical Faculty Associates
Department of Medicine, Suite 5-411
2150 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20037