

ACG INSTITUTE FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH & EDUCATION



The ACG Institute's primary mission is to advance the field of clinical gastroenterology through education and research. Consistent with that mission, the ACG Institute for Clinical Research and Education serves as a forum in which to build on the goals of the College. The Institute promotes research in clinical gastroenterology, educates physicians and the public, and provides resources to support the future needs of clinical gastroenterology, GI patients, as well as young clinical investigators who, as they develop careers in academic gastroenterology, enrich knowledge and treatments in digestive diseases.

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The Institute recognizes with thanks the contributions of former Board Members:

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Christina M. Surawicz, MD, MACG (2005-2011)



Nicholas J. Shaheen, MD, MPH, FACG ACG Institute Director

Dear Colleagues,

It is a pleasure to present to you the 2015 Report of the ACG Institute for Clinical Research & Education. In the pages that follow, we highlight for you the activities, achievements, and goals of the Institute. I think you will find it enjoyable reading.

As the new Director of the Institute, I am pleased to report a banner year with respect to our educational and research activities. To highlight two important educational activities, the ACG Edgar Achkar Visiting Professorship Program hit the ground running. This program, which provides financial and logistical support for visits of internationally recognized teachers to academic institutions and community practitioners, enables learners to interact with these faculty in an informal and conversational setting. Importantly, many of the host organizations for these events do not otherwise have the resources to sponsor such an experience. Given the declining support in both the community and at academic institutions for such visits, the Institute is delighted to fill this unmet need. On other fronts, our Hepatitis School, developed under the auspices of the Institute, continues to receive rave reviews from attendees, and provides a "one-stop" solution for practitioners eager to stay up to date on this rapidly evolving area. You can expect this model of regional conferences aimed at highly topical, important issues to expand, given the success of this program.

Our research program continues to thrive, and the Institute again this year granted well over \$1 million to clinical researchers. Of note, the Junior Faculty Development Award was increased in amount and duration, now allowing for a 3-year window of protected research time for these promising clinical investigators. Three awardees were selected, representing a range of research interests and geographic locations. If history is any indicator, these three newest ACG Scholars will become leaders in academic

medicine. Our thanks go out to Brennan Spiegel and his hard-working Research Committee, who consistently identify for the Institute the best young research talent, and optimize the Institute's return on our research grant dollar.

While these examples only scratch the surface of all the activities of the Institute, I hope they give you some idea of the way that the organization is enriching our profession and the intellectual life of the College. These activities and many others occur under the direction of our Institute Board of Directors. I appreciate their hard work, ingenuity, and dedication to the Institute and the College.

I would be remiss not to point out that this is the first time in almost a decade that this introduction has not been written by Edgar Achkar, MD, MACG, who masterfully guided the Institute for the last nine years. The College and the field of gastroenterology owe Edgar a huge debt of gratitude for his steady hand and vision for the Institute. I have learned much about leadership by working with him over these past several years, and I am privileged to call Edgar a friend and a mentor. It is in large part due to his vision, as well as the leadership of past Institute Directors Joel Richter and Don Castell, that the Institute has impacted our field in such a sizable and important way.

I am proud of the Institute's work, and am happy to share our progress with you. As the future presents us with new challenges and opportunities, you can be sure that the ACG Institute will strive to enrich the intellectual life of the College and our profession.

Very truly yours,

Nicholas J. Shaheen, MD, MPH, FACG

RESEARCH

CLINICAL RESEARCH: PILLAR OF THE ACG INSTITUTE

Founded in 1994, the Institute has provided funding to 575 investigators for research directly relating to the clinical gastrointestinal practice with funding of just over \$16.5 million. Through its support for clinical GI research, the ACG Institute has achieved distinction in the GI community and has made an impact on the careers of many talented clinical investigators. Through a major investment in career development awards and funding for GI fellows-in training, the Institute fosters clinical breakthroughs in gastroenterology and hepatology that promise to improve patient care and strengthen practitioners' capabilities.

Funding for 2015 Clinical Research

For 2015, the ACG Institute for Clinical Research and Education awarded \$1,201,775 in support of outstanding clinical research in gastroenterology. The ACG Institute will support three Junior Faculty Development Awards at an overall level of \$900,000, an investment in career development that recognizes and supports promising clinical researchers. From among numerous submissions for the 2015 Clinical Research Award, the Research Committee recommended funding for 13 investigators for a total of \$301,775, of which five are pilot awards at the \$10,000 level.

Brennan M.R. Spiegel, MD, MSHS, FACG Chair, ACG Research Committee

In January 2015, the ACG Research Committee convened in Las Vegas to review the submissions for the ACG 2015 Research Awards. Under the leadership of Brennan M.R. Spiegel, MD, MSHS, FACG, Chair of the ACG Research Committee, this hard-working group completed an extensive two-day review.

ACG Institute Invests in GI Career Development Funding

The ACG Institute considers the Junior Faculty
Development Award the "jewel in the crown" of the
College's research enterprise. In recent years, the
award has grown from two to three years of support
and reached a level of \$100,000 annually for a \$300,000
total investment in GI clinical investigation. At this
level of funding, the Institute is able to attract the best
qualified candidates and provide them with protected

research time necessary to take the next steps in their careers.

The ACG Junior Faculty Development Award funds promising clinical investigators tackling some of the most important challenges in the field of gastroenterology. An indirect, but perhaps more long lasting, effect is that supporting clinical research feeds the pipeline to our specialty by attracting bright young individuals who are determined to be not only good physicians but also discriminating clinical researchers.

ACG JUNIOR FACULTY DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

2015 JUNIOR FACULTY DEVELOPMENT AWARDS



Christopher V. Almario, MD

Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

Automated Evaluation of Gastrointestinal Symptoms

(AEGIS): A Pragmatic Clinical Trial Evaluating
the Impact of AEGIS on Clinical Outcomes



Cynthia A. Moylan, MD

Duke University Medical Center

Epigenetics and the Development of

Nanalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease



Jennifer C. Price, MD

University of California San Francisco
The Influence of HIV Infection on the Natural
History of Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease

2014 JUNIOR FACULTY DEVELOPMENT AWARDS



Linda C. Cummings, MD
Case Western Reserve University
Medication and Perioperative Effects
on Esophageal Cancer Outcomes



Manish Gala, MD

Massachusetts General Hospital

Identifying High-Risk Genes for Pancreatic Cancer
through Multi-cancer Signatures



Ashwani K. Singal, MD
University of Alabama at Birmingham
Translational Bioenergetics in Patients
with Alcoholic Liver Disease

2013 JUNIOR FACULTY DEVELOPMENT AWARDS



Naim Alkhouri, MD

Cleveland Clinic Foundation

Breath Analysis of Volatile Organic

Compounds in Pediatric Nonalcoholic

Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD)



Walter G. Park, MD
Stanford University
Translating Novel Pancreatic
Cyst Fluid Biomarkers from
the Bench to the Bedside



N. Jewel Samadder, MD, MSc Huntsman Cancer Institute Molecular Predictors of Missed and Interval Colorectal Cancer: A Population-Based Study

ACG CLINICAL RESEARCH AWARDS

Each year, the College offers Clinical Research Awards of up to \$35,000 for original clinical research. The mission of this awards program is to fund innovative research that is patient-care oriented. The Committee also considers proposals for pilot awards of up to \$10,000 within this category.

2015 ACG CLINICAL RESEARCH AWARDS

Jasmohan S. Bajaj, MD, FACG

Virginia Commonwealth University and McGuire VA Medical Center Impact of Proton Pump Inhibitors on Gut Microbiota in Decompensated Cirrhosis

Raymond K. Cross, MD

University of Maryland, Baltimore Impact of Medical Treatment on Sexual Function in Patients with Crohn's Disease

Parambir S. Dulai, MD

University of California San Diego Fecal Immunochemical Testing (FIT) for Quantifying Disease Activity in Ulcerative Colitis: Identifying a 'FIT for Purpose' Clinical End-Point

Girish Hiremath, MD

Baylor College of Medicine, Texas Children's Hospital Salivary Biomarkers for Eosinophilic Esophagitis

Yvette Leung, MD

Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary Impact of Maternal Thiopurine Therapy on Pregnancy Outcome and Neonatal Anemia

Laura E. Raffals, MD

Mayo Clinic Rochester

A Comprehensive Evaluation of Pouch Evacuation Dynamics and Pouchitis

Joel H. Rubenstein, MD, FACG

University of Michigan
Vitamin D and Parathyroid Hormone in Gastroesophageal
Reflux Disease and Proton Pump Inhibitor Use

Harminder Singh, MD, FACG

University of Manitoba

Epidemiology and Outcomes of Clostridium Difficile
Infections in IBD: A Population-Based Study

2015 ACG CLINICAL RESEARCH AWARDS PILOT PROJECTS

Somashekar G. Krishna, MD

The Ohio State University Medical Center Does Peri-Procedural Lactated Ringer's Solution Dampen the Inflammatory Response and Reduce the Risk of Post-ERCP Pancreatitis when Compared to Normal Saline: A Pilot Study

Thaddaeus D. May, MD

Baylor College of Medicine

Mortality in Kwashiorkor Malnutrition: the Role of Cardiac Disturbances

Kathryn A. Peterson, MD

University of Utah

Buccal Mucosa: Potential Insight into Eosinophilic Esophagitis

Sarita Sehra, PhD

Indiana University School of Medicine
Biomarkers for Proton Pump Inhibitor-Responsive Eosinophilic Esophagitis

Matthew J. Stotts, MD

Saint Louis University Hospital

Evaluation of Serum-Derived Bovine Immunoglobulin Protein

Isolate in Subjects with Decompensated Cirrhosis with Ascites



ACG 2014-2015 RESEARCH COMMITTEE

- Chair, Brennan M.R. Spiegel, MD, MSHS, FACG, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
- Jean-Paul Achkar, MD, FACG, Cleveland Clinic Foundation
- Dennis J. Ahnen, MD, FACG, *University of Colorado/Denver VA Medical Center*
- Olga C. Aroniadis, MD, Montefiore Medical Center
- Jasmohan S. Bajaj, MD, FACG, McGuire VA Medical Center and Virginia Commonwealth University
- Charles N. Bernstein, MD, FACG, *University* of Manitoba
- Edgar C. Boedeker, MD, FACG, University of New Mexico School of Medicine
- Darwin L. Conwell, MD, MS, *Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center*
- Gregory S. Cooper, MD, FACG, *University Hospitals of Cleveland*
- Carmen Cuffari, MD, FACG, Johns Hopkins Hospital

- Prasad G. Iyer, MD, MS, FACG, Mayo Clinic Rochester
- Binu V. John, MD, Cleveland Clinic Foundation
- Charles J. Kahi, MD, FACG, Indiana University
- Millie D. Long, MD, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Bruce A. Luxon, MD, PhD, FACG, Georgetown University Medical Center
- Jonathan E. Markowitz, MD, MSCE, Greenville Children's Hospital
- Santiago J. Munoz, MD, FACG, *Capital Health Hahnemann University Hospital*
- V. Raman Muthusamy, MD, FACG, *University* of California, Los Angeles
- Ece A. Mutlu, MD, MS, MBA, FACG, Rush University Medical Center
- Joel R. Pekow, MD, University of Chicago
- Mark Pimentel, MD, FACG, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

- Mark S. Riddle, MD, Naval Medical Research Center
- Yehuda Ringel, MD, FACG, *University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*
- Sameer D. Saini, MD, University of Michigan
- N. Jewel Samadder, MD, Huntsman Cancer Institute
- Lisa L. Strate, MD, FACG, *Harborview Medical Center*
- Jill M. Tinmouth, MD, PhD, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre
- Tram T. Tran, MD, FACG, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
- Marcelo F. Vela, MD, MSCR, FACG, Mayo Clinic Arizona
- Fernando S. Velayos, MD, University of California San Francisco
- Michael L. Volk, MD, Loma Linda University
- Bechien U. Wu, MD, Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center



ACG Scholars Event
Philadelphia 2014
Back L to R:
Tamas A. Gonda, MD
Manish Gala, MD
Ashwani K. Singal, MD
Jennifer C. Lai, MD
Walter G. Park, MD
Seth D. Crockett, MD
Evan S. Dellon, MD, MPH
Front L to R:
Marcelo F. Vela, MD,
MSCR, FACG
Edgar Achkar, MD, MACG
Nicholas J. Shaheen, MD,
MPH, FACG
Yehuda Ringel, MD, FACG
Inset:
Christina M. Surawicz, MD,
MACG

"ACG SCHOLARS" NETWORK AND MENTOR

Past ACG Junior Faculty Awardees Gather for Scientific, Professional Exchange

The ACG Scholars are a community of highly motivated clinical researchers identified and supported by the ACG Institute. This cohort of 50 current and former recipients of the ACG Junior Faculty Development Award have received more than \$7.5 million dollars in ACG career development awards since 1997.

In 2012, the ACG Institute introduced the designation of "ACG Scholar" as a way to not only recognize the achievements of this group of investigators for their productivity and academic achievements, but also to create a sense of identity and community among the recipients of this significant award

The Institute's goal was to create an enduring community of distinguished clinical investigators who will help mentor current ACG Scholars and contribute to the scientific life of the College on an ongoing basis in myriad ways: as mentors, as presenters at the ACG Annual Scientific Meeting, and by showcasing their research contributions among their colleagues.

At their yearly meetings, the ACG Scholars have the opportunity to cultivate their professional development, network and create possibilities to mentor younger awardees.

In October 2014, at the ACG Annual Scientific Meeting in Philadelphia, the ACG Scholars continued their tradition of gathering to network and share their experiences. Joining the ACG Scholars were members of the ACG Research Committee and the ACG Institute Board of Directors.

Edgar Achkar, MD, MACG, outgoing ACG Institute Director (2005-2014) and longtime supporter of the ACG Institute's involvement in funding innovative and impactful scientific research, was joined by incoming ACG Institute Director Dr. Nicholas Shaheen in welcoming everyone to enjoy the cutting edge science, state-of-the-art talks, new research by current awardees and experts, and networking opportunities at the event.

Dr. Christina M. Surawicz, ACG Past
President and featured speaker, presented
"Pragmatic Interventions of Stress
Reduction and Burnout Prevention." Her
talk included a physician well-being index
for participants to complete to evaluate their
own risk for burnout. Dr. Surawicz offered
practical suggestions for reducing stress
and preventing burnout, including creating
a coverage plan with colleagues for when
you have plans outside of work, writing
down what goals you want to accomplish
personally and professionally to put things in
perspective, and utilizing colleagues to get

advice on challenging cases. The discussion included advice from fellow physicians to their colleagues on their strategies for addressing and recognizing burnout at their institutions. Additionally, Dr. Surawicz presented data on burnout, and what has been studied in physicians, as well as personal insights.

Dr. Walter G. Park, a current ACG Junior Faculty Development Award recipient, provided an update on his research progress to date. Dr. Park presented on his project "Translating Novel Pancreatic Cyst Fluid Biomarkers from the Bench to the Bedside." Attendees provided feedback and discussed the next phases of his research and considerations in his study design.

ACG Scholars Dr. Evan S. Dellon and Dr. Yehuda Ringel both shared insights from their recent work. Dr. Dellon presented on the new ACG guideline, "Evidence Based Approach to the Diagnosis and Management of Esophageal Eosinophilia and Eosinophilic Esophagitis." Dr. Dellon discussed the challenges and considerations that his workgroup examined as they developed the recommendations. Dr. Ringel presented on "Targeting the Intestinal Microbiota in the Treatment of Gastrointestinal Diseases." in which he provided an overview of the growing understanding of the intestinal microbiota as well as some of the challenges.

ACG SCHOLARS:

CONTRIBUTIONS TO 2014 & 2015 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

One noteworthy contribution of the ACG Scholars is that each year their research dominates the oral plenary sessions at the ACG Annual Scientific Meeting. As a requirement of the award, recipients are encouraged to submit an abstract to the ACG Meeting. Submissions are rigorously reviewed and evaluated by the ACG Educational Affairs Committee, which selects fewer than 70 papers for oral presentation from the more than 2,000 abstracts submitted.

The consistently high percentage of oral papers presented by ACG Scholars is a tribute to their talents and to the high regard in which the organizers of the ACG Annual Scientific Meeting hold their research. By presenting their best work at ACG, the Scholars enrich the experience of the ACG Annual Scientific Meeting. Their work is frequently featured as part of the distinguished President's Plenary session, a forum to showcase the best abstract in each organ system category.

PLENARY SESSIONS: 2014 ACG ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING



Naim Alkhouri, MD Cleveland Clinic Foundation Analysis of Exhaled Volatile Organic Compounds Reveals New Biomarkers for Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Serum Ceruloplasmin, Ferritin, and their Ratio Are Significantly Associated with Nonalcoholic Steatohepatitis in Patients with NAFLD The Impact of Hyponatremia on the Outcomes of Wait-Listed and Transplanted Patients with Liver Cirrhosis



Naga P. Chalasani, MD, FACG Indiana University School of Medicine

Idiosyncratic Drug-Induced Liver Injury (DILI) in the United States: A Report of 1,257 Prospectively Enrolled Patients (2014 ACG Governors Award for Excellence in Clinical Research)



Tamas A. Gonda, MD Columbia University Medical Center DNA Methylation Changes in Barrett's Epithelium and Adiacent Normal Mucosa



Walter G. Park, MD, MS Stanford University

Rapid Point-of-Care Measurement of Cyst Fluid Glucose is Feasible and Accurate in Predicting Mucinous Pancreatic Cysts



Gregory S. Sayuk, MD, MPH Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis Impact of Retroflexion versus Second Forward View Examination of the Right Colon on Adenoma Detection: A Multicenter Randomized Controlled Trial



Nicholas J. Shaheen, MD, MPH, FACG University of North Carolina

(2014 ACG Colorectal Cancer Prevention Award)

Site Volume Is Inversely Associated with Recurrence Rate after Successful Radiofrequency Ablation (RFA): An Analysis of the U.S. RFA Registry



Zobair Younossi, MD, MPH, FACG Inova Fairfax Hospital

Health Related Quality of Life (HRQL) and Health Utilities (HU) of Patients with Chronic Hepatitis CTreated with an Interferon-Free Regimen containing Ledipasvir and Sofosbuvir

PLENARY SESSIONS: 2015 ACG ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING



Naim Alkhouri, MD Cleveland Clinic Foundation

Sofosbuvir-Based Treatment is Safe and Effective in Patients with Chronic Hepatitis C Infection and End-Stage Renal Disease



Prasad G. Iyer, MD, FACG

Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Impact of Histology Confirmation by GI Pathologist Panel on Progression Rates in Barrett's Esophagus with Low-Grade Dysplasia: Results from a Multicenter Prospective BE Registry Low Bleeding Rates Associated with Esophageal Endoscopic Mucosal Resection for the Treatment of Dysplastic Barrett's Esophagus (2015 ACG Governors Award for Excellence in Clinical Research)



Yehuda Ringel, MD, FACG University of North Carolina

Associations of Clinical Symptoms and Bowel Characteristics with Intestinal Microbiota in Patients with Irritable Bowel Syndrome (2015 ACG Governors Award for Excellence in Clinical Research)



Yvonne Romero, MD, FACG

Mayo Clinic, Rochester

Impact of Histology Confirmation by GI Pathologist Panel on Progression Rates in Barrett's Esophagus with Low-Grade Dysplasia: Results from a Multicenter Prospective BE Registry



Ashwani K. Singal, MD

University of Alabama at Birmingham

Acute Kidney Injury Among Hospitalized Patients with Alcoholic Liver Disease and Acute or Chronic Liver Failure

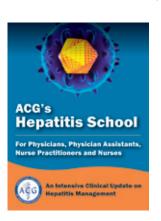
EDUCATION

ACG INSTITUTE'S EDUCATION MISSION

The ACG Institute has a direct impact on ACG members through the educational programs intended for them and through initiatives meant to raise public awareness of various GI disorders. On the patient education level, the Institute works to develop the best education base for GI patients.

ACG's Hepatitis School 2014-2015

The concept of the ACG Hepatitis School was born in early 2013, in response to the dramatic changes that were occurring in the evaluation and treatment of hepatitis B and C and the need to make the ACG membership aware of these developments so that they could be prepared to provide the best care for their patients and the communities they serve. The first course was presented in Washington, DC in April 2013. The curriculum included discussions on the epidemiology, diagnosis and treatment



of both hepatitis B and hepatitis C. The initial course was well-received by the attendees, who felt that the subject matter greatly benefited their practices. Over the last two years, the field of hepatology has continued to rapidly advance, especially with new, highly effective hepatitis C treatments being introduced and new technologies such as FibroScan® becoming available to accurately and non-invasively assess hepatic fibrosis.

The ACG Hepatitis School and its faculty have adapted the curriculum with each successive session in order to present to the audience the most up-to-date information available, sometimes including new information that was literally only available for days. The Course Directors have worked diligently to keep the meetings informative and practical while maintaining a bias-free environment.

Current topics include the evaluation and treatment of chronic hepatitis B, evaluation and staging of hepatitis C, treatment of hepatitis C, treatment strategies for difficult to treat hepatitis C patients, such as those with renal disease, cirrhosis or liver cancer, access to hepatitis B and C care, and navigating the current payer systems to obtain hepatitis medications for patients.

The course evaluations have confirmed the effectiveness of the course material, and the feedback that the faculty has received has been extremely positive. From the faculty perspective, the course has been quite impactful in providing current state-of-the-art information to the attendees, and practice patterns have been positively influenced by the content.

The faculty is proud of many aspects of ACG's Hepatitis School. Most notable is the continued interest of the audience and increasing enrollment at each successive course. The faculty is equally proud of the course curriculum and the continual updating of the content in order to ensure that the most recent developments in hepatology are brought to the attention of the membership so that they can bring these advances home to their communities. The impact of the courses has been tremendous, and we look forward to continuing to refine and update the curriculum to best serve the membership.

To achieve the best outcomes for hepatitis C treatment, physicians and their allied health colleagues must adapt their clinical approaches to address the complexities of clinical management. Given the challenging realities of patient management for HCV therapy, with its intensive evaluation, consultation, frequent follow-up monitoring, and physician office visits, the ACG Institute aims to help GI practices coordinate care effectively, promote adherence to therapy, and ultimately optimize sustained viral response to HCV therapy. There is a tremendous unmet need for training those allied health professionals who play an important role in supporting GI physicians and providing care for patients with hepatitis C. To meet these significant challenges, the College sent GI practitioners and the mid-level providers on their staffs back to school to ACG's Hepatitis School.

2013-2015 Hepatitis School Faculty List



David E. Bernstein, MD, FACG North Shore Long Island Jewish Health Care System and Hofstra North Shore-LIJ School of Medicine, NewYork, NY



Jorge L. Herrera, MD, FACG University of South Alabama, Mobile, AL



Paul Y. Kwo, MD, FACG Indiana University Department of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN



James H. Lewis, MD, FACG Georgetown University Medical Center, Washington, DC



April G. Long, NP Liver Institute of Virginia, Richmond, VA



Bruce A. Luxon, MD, PhD, FACG Georgetown University Medical Center, Washington, DC



Nancy S. Reau, MD University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois



Mitchell L. Shiffman, MD, FACG Liver Institute of Virginia, Richmond, VA



Maly Tiev, NP North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health Care, New York, NY



Zobair M. Younossi, MD, MPH, FACG Inova Fairfax Hospital and Virginia Commonwealth University, Inova Campus, Falls Church, VA

In 2014 and 2015, ACG's Hepatitis School offered a day-long interactive educational program providing an immersion in hepatitis C management and a clinical update on new therapeutic modalities and approaches. The program focused on the epidemiology of hepatitis C, the 2013 CDC birth cohort screening guidelines, pre-treatment medical evaluation of the patient with hepatitis C, currently approved therapies for hepatitis C and the pipeline of new drug development for the treatment of hepatitis C. The faculty addressed identifying candidates for therapy, provided an excellent review of pre-treatment patient evaluation, and reviewed appropriate therapies and their side effects for naïve and previously treated hepatitis C patients.

April 12, 2013, Washington, DC

Co-Course Directors David E. Bernstein, MD, FACG, Bruce A. Luxon, MD, FACG and Zobair M. Younossi, MD, MPH, FACG were joined by faculty Jorge L. Herrera, MD, FACG, James L. Lewis, MD, FACG, and Mitchell L. Shiffman, MD, FACG for an engaging session. This sold-out program was offered in conjunction with ACG's Eastern Regional Postgraduate Course.

December 6, 2013, Nashville, TN

David E. Bernstein, MD, FACG and Bruce A. Luxon, MD, FACG reprised their successful Hepatitis School program in Nashville for ACG's Southern Regional Postgraduate Course, where they were joined by Jorge L. Herrera, MD, FACG, and Mitchell L. Shiffman, MD, FACG. The audience heard about new therapies on the horizon and enjoyed an afternoon of interactive case presentations.

September 19, 2014, Chicago, IL

Co-Course Directors David E. Bernstein, MD, FACG and Mitchell L. Shiffman, MD, FACG were joined by faculty April G. Long, NP, Nancy S. Reau, MD, and Zobair M. Younossi, MD, MPH, FACG for an engaging session in conjunction with ACG's Women in GI Forum.

January 23, 2015, Las Vegas, NV

David E. Bernstein, MD, FACG, Mitchell L. Shiffman, MD, FACG, and April G. Long, NP, were joined by returning faculty Jorge L. Herrera and the addition of Paul Y. Kwo, MD, FACG, at the Western Regional Postgraduate Course.

June 12, 2015, Boston, MA

Faculty for this course included David E. Bernstein, MD, FACG, Mitchell L. Shiffman, MD, FACG, Bruce A. Luxon, MD, FACG, Paul Y. Kwo, MD, FACG, and April G. Long, NP. This program, offered in conjunction with the ACG's Eastern Regional Postgraduate Course, provided an immersion in hepatitis B and C management, update on new therapeutic modalities and approaches, as well as HCV-HIV co-infection and how to navigate the insurances process.

December 4, 2015, Nashville, TN

Faculty for this course include David E. Bernstein, MD, FACG, Mitchell L. Shiffman, MD, FACG, Jorge L. Herrera, MD, FACG, Bruce A. Luxon, MD, FACG, Paul Y. Kwo, MD, FACG, and April G. Long, NP. This program is offered in conjunction with the ACG's Southern Regional Popstgraduate Course.

Near Right:
Dr. Lisa L. Strate (center) with Gl
fellows at Wake Forest School of
Medicine
Far Right:
Dr. William D. Chey & Dr. David

Armstrong (4th & 3rd from right) and McMaster GI fellows





ACG EDGAR ACHKAR VISITING PROFESSORSHIP PROGRAM

In naming this program in honor of Edgar Achkar, MD, MACG, ACG Institute Director Emeritus, the ACG Institute in a small way expresses its deep gratitude to him for his strong, clear vision for Institute initiatives like this that support both GI training programs and community GI physicians alike.

In its second year, the newly renamed ACG Edgar Achkar Visiting Professorship Program continues to bring nationally recognized speakers as faculty for medical grand rounds presentations and to enhance the educational experience for GI fellows-in-training while at the same time providing objective, timely and clinically relevant presentations to ACG member physicians in the community.

At a time when many programs lack sufficient budgets to cover visiting faculty, the ACG Institute is proud to fill this need. In evaluating the applications from institutions seeking an ACG Visiting Professor, the Institute sought to reach a diverse number of programs while aiming to maximize the impact of each visit by targeting GI training programs which could also leverage an additional community event with local ACG member physicians, sometimes in conjunction with a local gut club.

2015 Visit to Wake Forest: Dr. Strate

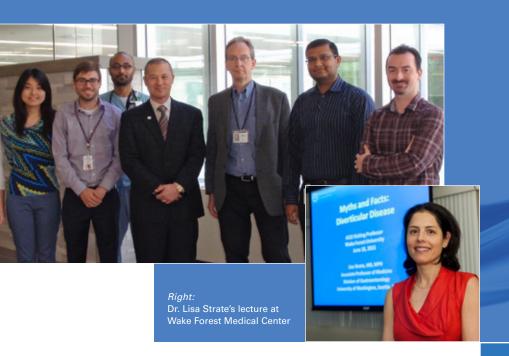
Lisa L. Strate, MD, FACG, was the first ACG Visiting Professor in 2015, presenting at Wake Forest School of Medicine on June 18 and 19. Dr. Strate was cordially invited by Girish Mishra, MD, MS, FACG, to share her knowledge of diverticular disease. According to Dr. Mishra, "this was a highly academic talk with superb scholarly research. To have an accomplished investigator in the field showing her work was inspiring and made her message

very real. Dr. Strate was highly engaged with learners across the entire spectrum from medical students, internal medicine residents, fellows and faculty. The entire experience created an amazing learning environment in the mold of the historic 'visiting professor.' I believe having a female speaker added a dimension for our female trainees and students. Perhaps this visit by Dr. Strate will motivate or engender their desire to pursue academics."

Dr. Chey Visits McMaster University

William D. Chey, MD, FACG, served as an ACG Visiting Professor at McMaster University in Ontario, Canada, on June 24 and 25. David Armstrong, MD, FACG invited Dr. Chey, who "enjoyed the opportunity to expand thinking around the role of diet and lifestyle in the management of patients with IBS. It was symbiotic to discuss our respective research programs and to find potentially fertile groups for cross pollination." Dr. Chey conducted an educational session with the GI Fellows, presented on "Diet or Diety: Is the Juice Worth the Squeeze for IBS?" at GI rounds, and presented, "Evolution or Revolution: How Health Information Technology Will Transform Medicine" at medical grand rounds at McMaster University's Hamilton Health Sciences Center.

For the fellows at McMaster, Dr. Chey's visit offered the opportunity to benefit from his perspective on career development and achieving work-life balance among other topics. Dr. Chey describes his goal at McMaster thus: "In an age where the only constant is seismic change and it is easy to become discouraged as a consequence of loss of autonomy and mounting pressures on clinicians and academics alike, I hope I was able to convey that this is also a time of great excitement and boundless opportunity."



For 2015, other ACG Visiting Professors include:

- Neena S. Abraham, MD, MSCE, FACG, at Maimonides Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York, presenting on GI bleeding
- Evan S. Dellon, MD, MPH, at University of Texas, San Antonio, presenting on esophageal disorders
- Girish Mishra, MD, MSc, FACG, at SUNY Upstate
 University in Syracuse, New York, presenting on endoscopic ultrasound and pancreatic disease
- Gottumukkala S. Raju, MD, FACG, at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, Mississippi, presenting on colon cancer prevention and polyp resection
- Marcelo F. Vela, MD, MSCR, FACG, at Case Western University Hospital in Cleveland, Ohio, presenting on upper GI motility



ABOUT THE ACG INSTITUTE

The ACG Institute for Clinical Research and Education fulfills a very important role in promoting the College's commitment to clinical research and physician and patient education. The ACG Institute's record to date is a source of pride, particularly its significant and growing support of young clinical investigators.

The ACG Institute has grown in the years since its introduction in 1994, both in terms of the breadth of its investment in clinical GI investigators and the scope of its activities, which now include the development of evidence-based systematic reviews and related clinical education for physicians and patients.

The Institute's success is due in large part to the commitment and support of the ACG Board of Trustees, the Board of Governors, and all the members who have participated and continue to be part of the ACG Institute's work.



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