



For the alumni, residents, students and other friends of Family & Community Medicine

Volume 1, Issue 1

Save the Date!!!

Please save the date for the 2011 Alumni Symposium taking place on Saturday, November 5, 2011.

You can expect a full day of important topics by knowledgeable family practitioners.

Registration information will be sent this summer.

We are Going Green!!!

We are going green! Please send your email address to kwebster@som.umaryland.edu to receive your next issue electronically



From the Chairman David Stewart, MD, MPH

Greetings from the Department of Family & Community Medicine. Thanks to all of you who responded to our recent inquiry for contact information and preference in how you would like to receive the newsletter. The winter edition provides Family Health Center and medical student updates. We welcome our residency class of 2013. They are all hard workers and excellent doctors. Under the leadership of Drs. Barnet and Khanna, the Department is engaged in transforming to a patient centered medical home as well as partnering with the state in Maryland's Patient Centered Medical Home Pilot Project. Finally, we are thankful to all who continue to update us about your successes or provide support to our development efforts with your interest, time or money. The department hopes that you enjoy the newsletter.

Patient Centered Medical Home at University Family Medicine Beth Barnet, MD

University of Maryland, Dept of Family and Community Medicine is leading the Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) transformation efforts to improve the health of our patients and communities in Maryland. We are teaching the next generation of family physicians to adopt innovations that bolster the delivery of high quality, personalized care to patients. Maryland will soon implement a PCMH pilot and test a new care delivery and reimbursement model. Our UFM PCMH strives for personalized care through coordinated, team efforts enhanced with our newly implemented electronic health record. We have advanced quality and safety with evidence-based care improvement systems and open access scheduling. With funding from Maryland's Community Health Resources Commission, we increased access to care for un-and-underinsured patients to reduce patients' use of the emergency department (ED) for non-emergent conditions. Since the start of this project in June 2008, we have provided a primary care medical home to 3,828 new patients, of which 2,457 (64%) were low income, uninsured, or insured by Medicaid. Our success can be seen in the numbers - this Medical Home project averted 960 non-emergent ED visits, a savings of over \$200,000!



Medical Students are Showing a Greater Interest in Family Medicine Again!



There is growing sentiment nationally that interest in family medicine is picking up, and we are seeing this at the University of Maryland as well. Both last year and this year, 8% of the fourth year student class chose to pursue family medicine.

We are grateful to our community preceptors who now number more than 30 throughout the state who take third year students into their office as they satisfy their obligatory family medicine clerkship. This clerkship has been ranked the number one clerkship for the past four years in a row. We are also seeing a tremendous interest in the Family Care Track. This is an intensive immersion experience for first and second year students. This year close to one third of the entering freshman class applied for 18 slots !

In order to continue offering such a broad range of experiences to our students, many of whom will go on to chose family medicine as a career (and perhaps want to join you in your practice) we need your help. Please consider serving as a preceptor. Many of our preceptors tell us having a student work alongside them is the highlight of their week .

Adopt a Room and Join the “Finish the Practice” Challenge

In 2008, the newly named *Dr. Marion & Esther Friedman Family Health Center* at 29 S. Paca Street received much-needed interior improvements, thanks to the generosity of Dr. Barry and Mrs. Marsha Friedman, and their family. Improvements to the Family & Community Medicine Practice included a refurbished and expanded waiting room, new floors, carpeting and finishes. This was a significant improvement for our patients. This year we are challenging our former residents, faculty and friends to help us “Finish the Practice” by raising enough funds to upgrade the interior of all 33 patient rooms . There are no operating funds available for this work, and the department’s advisory committee has adopted the renovation as its philanthropy project for FY11. We have already received \$15,000 towards our goal!

The first \$50,000 raised will be used to renovate the clinic interior walls and floors. A stretch goal of \$100,000 has been set, which would provide enough funds to replace and upgrade all cabinetry and wood finishes within each room.

With a gift of \$1,600, individuals or groups can adopt a room in their name or in honor or memory of a mentor or loved one. A plaque will be placed in each room to acknowledge the donor.

To learn more, please contact Karen Webster at kwebster@som.umaryland.edu.

Meet Our New Residents– Class of 2013!

Join us in welcoming our newest residents:

Maria Akhtar, MD– Ross University
 Ryane Edmonds, MD– Meharry Medical College
 Tracy Givens, MD– Ross University
 Jessica Lue, MD– University of Maryland School of Medicine
 Fallon Mattis, MD– Columbia University
 Michael Pitzer, MD– Penn State
 Casey Rice, MD– University of Maryland School of Medicine
 Castel Santana, MD– American University of Caribbean

We wish them the best of luck and look forward to working with them for the next three years.

Practice Update Kevin Ferentz, MD

Wow! Have things been changing around here!

There have been three large changes in our practice over the past six months. Over the summer we renovated the main waiting room and the common areas of the office. By everyone's account – the office looks beautiful! We have some hardwood flooring in the main waiting room, a beautiful new wood desk for our reception staff, new waiting room chairs, and more. The next step is renovating the individual exam rooms, which will be an even larger project for which we are trying to raise funds. Stay tuned.



Then... in response to a great need of the campus community for immediate access to care... we opened another office around the block! It's known as UMIC – University of Maryland Immediate Care. It is succeeding beyond anyone's expectations. We are seeing upwards of 50 patients per day. The office is only for students and employees of the campus, and we do not provide on-going care (except for the students). UMIC is being staffed by our recent graduate, Dr. James Baronas, along with Andrea Fisch (our Nurse Practitioner), with help from Dr. Khanna.



And then... the single largest change to our practice happened in September. After more than a year of preparation, we launched our Electronic Medical Record! We were the first major clinic on the campus to work in EPIC, and our launch could not have gone better. We are already seeing positive changes to the way we interact with patients. Our EMR will allow us to capture data that shows the value of Family Medicine to our payors, to the campus, and to the State.

All in all, it's been a busy six months. Our clinical practice is bursting at the seams in our beautiful new surroundings. Come visit!

Alumni Corner

Residency Class of 1983

Donald R. Lurye, MD, MMM, CPE, Chief Executive Officer, Elmhurst Clinic, LLC, Elmhurst, IL

Dr. Donald Lurye has received the 2010 Illinois Academy of Family Physicians President's Award in recognition of becoming the first set of practices in Illinois to achieve recognition from NCQA as a Patient Centered Medical Home. Please see the following press release: <http://www.emhc.org/about/emhcnews/pressreleases/individual.cfm?pid=8BC1C2E0-D970-E3FA-627073B53CC2E69C>. Dr. Lurye was also named CEO of the Elmhurst Clinic, a multi-specialty group just outside Chicago, in 2008.

Residency Class of 1998

Hunter Spotts, MD, Assistant Medical Director, Patient First, Perry Hall, MD

Congratulations to Dr. Hunter Spotts for being named the new Assistant Medical Director at Patient First in Perry Hall, MD, December 2010. Please see the following for more information: http://www.mdnews.com/news/2010_12/patient-first-director

We hope to hear from you too! Share your professional or family news by contacting Karen Webster at kwebster@som.umaryland.edu for our next edition.



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