

In Ignotis “Into the Unknown”

Message from the Chair

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving, surrounded by warmth and joy with your loved ones. As we step into a new week, I am excited to share some fantastic news.

Our residents and fellowship programs have achieved remarkable success in the recent fellowship match, showcasing the dedication and excellence of our team. Your hard work and commitment have undoubtedly played a significant role in these achievements.

I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for each one of you. Your contributions make our workplace a thriving and supportive environment, and it's moments like these that remind us of the incredible team we have. Let's celebrate these achievements together (some of which are highlighted in this newsletter) and look forward to more milestones ahead. Thank you for your continued dedication and teamwork!

Peer-reviewed Publications

- 1) **Patel B, D'Souza S, Sahni T, Yehya A.** Pulmonary hypertension secondary to valvular heart disease: a state-of-the-art review. *Heart Fail Rev.* 2023 Nov 29.
- 2) **Sangay AR, Kankotia RJ, Machicado JD.** Successful retrieval of a retained fractured ERCP guidewire in the pancreatic duct. *VideoGIE.* 2023 Nov 8.
- 3) Krim SR, Anand S, Greene SJ, Chen A, Wojdyla D, Vilaro J, Haught H, **Herre JM**, Eisenstein EL, Anstrom KJ, Pitt B, Velazquez EJ, Mentz RJ. Torsemide vs Furosemide Among Patients With New-Onset vs Worsening Chronic Heart Failure: A Substudy of the TRANSFORM-HF Randomized Clinical Trial. *JAMA Cardiol.* 2023 Nov 13.
- 4) Zahr F, Smith RL, Gillam LD, Chadderdon S, Makkar R, von Bardeleben RS, Ruf TF, Kipperman RM, Rassi AN, Szerlip M, Goldman S, Inglessis-Azuaje I, Yadav P, Lurz P, Davidson CJ, Mumtaz M, Gada H, Kar S, Kodali SK, Laham R, Hiesinger W, Fam NP, Keßler M, O'Neill WW, Whisenant B, Klinger C, Kapadia S, Rudolph V, Choo J, Hermiller J, Morse MA, Schofer N, Gafoor S, Latib A, **Mahoney P**, Kaneko T, Shah PB, Riddick JA, Muhammad KI, Boekstegers P, Price MJ, Praz F, Koulogiannis K, Marcoff L, Hausleiter J, Lim DS; CLASP IID Pivotal Trial Investigators. One-Year Outcomes From the CLASP IID Randomized Trial for Degenerative Mitral Regurgitation. *JACC Cardiovasc Interv.* 2023 Oct 26:S1936-8798(23)01358-4.
- 5) **Nguyen C, Parson HK, Pettaway J, Siraj E, Casellini C**, et al. Utilizing a quality of life tool to examine the presence of fatigue in subjects with diabetes mellitus. *Journal of Clinical & Translational Endocrinology. Published online 2023:100328.*
- 6) Obaitan I, Wehbe H, Easler JJ, **Vargas A.**, et al. Factors predictive of hospital length of stay in patients with an index episode of acute necrotizing pancreatitis. *Pancreatology.* 2023;S1424-3903(23)01845-8.

Presentations & Published Abstracts

- 1) **Carolina M Casellini, Henri K Parson, Michael D Bailey, Aaron Vinik, Elias S Siraj.** A Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled, 52 Week Study to Assess the Effects of Liraglutide on Somatic and Autonomic Nerve Function in Subjects with Type 2 Diabetic Neuropathy. Presented at the NEURODIAB 33rd Annual Meeting of the Diabetic Neuropathy Study Group in September, 2023 in Thessaloniki, Greece
- 2) **Carolina M Casellini, Henri K Parson, Amber Ingram, Jordan Pettaway, Kattie E Frizzi, Nigel A Calcutt, Angela Hansen, Elias S Siraj.** A Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled, Parallel, 12-week phase 2A Study of Topical Pirenzepine (WST-057) or Placebo in Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus patients with painful Diabetic Neuropathy. Presented at the NEURODIAB 33rd Annual Meeting of the Diabetic Neuropathy Study Group in September, 2023 in Thessaloniki, Greece
- 3) **Okhravi HR** Alyaan S, Gupta A, Shubham J, Maly K, Nesbitt C, Moudden EE, Gujjar S, et al. Poster presentation in October 2023 at Clinical Trials In Alzheimer's Disease (CTAD 2023). Feasibility and Acceptability of Using Technology in Caregivers and Alzheimer's Disease Patients with Agitation.
- 4) Saal RC, Wintringham JA, Smith RJ, **Hanrahan JA.** presented a poster, *Rhodotorula mucilaginosa* Skin Infection in an Immunocompetent Patient at the Southeastern Dermatology Conference October 2023.
- 5) **Sadr N, Qayyum R.** Association between sunscreen metabolite and white blood cells in the US population. Presented at the VDS Annual Conference, November 2023, Virginia Beach, VA.
- 6) **Sadr N, Qayyum R.** Sunscreen metabolite concentrations and socioeconomic status: a study of sun protection disparities. Presented at the VDS Annual Conference, November 2023, Virginia Beach, VA.



Inside this issue

Message from the Chair	1
Peer-reviewed publications.....	1
Presentations & Abstracts	1
Researcher Spotlight	2
Awards & Media Highlights	2
Announcements & Reminders....	2

Follow us on Social Media

#IMResearch EVMS



Researcher Spotlight—Sarah Phillips, MS4

Tell us about yourself: I went to UVA for undergrad (go hoos!) before starting medical school at EVMS. Majoring in Global Public Health with a minor in Bioethics sparked an interest in medicine and epidemiology, and I've sought opportunities in various fields to explore these interests. While at EVMS I've worked closely with HOPES as the clinic co-coordinator for our Walk-In and Wound Care Clinic (part of Street Health), served on the executive committee for our MSV/AMA chapter, and became involved in various research experiences during the summer.

What excites you about research? What areas do you hope to improve upon in the future?

The collaborative environment of research excites me; there's no end to the incredible ideas and creativity people have in response to why? 'Why does X drug prevent Y disease,' or 'how can this approach be improved upon to better serve patients?' Research helps me to be observant of the needs around me, and I find it encouraging that solutions to scientific questions can have ripple effects for years to come. I hope to improve upon cancer health disparities in the future but am open to where my medical and research training take me.

Do you have a research mentor? If yes, how did you initially connect with them and what skills have you learned through their mentorship?

Dr. Rehan Qayyum has been a great research mentor for the past year at EVMS. We were connected through the Internal Medicine research department for a project. I've learned how to conduct systematic reviews, assess the risk of bias, and evaluate certainty of evidence in research studies. These skills not only help with my understanding of medical literature but will enable me to communicate best care practices to patients in the future.

Please tell us about your decision to take a research gap year:

I am working towards a physician-scientist career and knew a research year would equip me with the training and skills needed to make this a reality. This year, I am working at the National Institutes of Health with a focus on clinical epidemiology. I'm learning that curiosity is an essential motivator throughout the discovery process and hope to carry this with me throughout my medical training and beyond.

"No research without action, no action without research."

- Kurt Lewin

Awards, Media Highlights, & Mentorship

Qayyum R received Faculty Mentoring Award at the 2023 EVMS Service & Recognition Awards Ceremony.

Tahhan S received the Faculty Excellence Award at the 2023 EVMS Service & Recognition Awards Ceremony.

Kannarkat M received the Fine Family Academy of Educators Award for Educational Leadership.

Fanning L received the President's Champion of Diversity & Inclusion Award.

Sadr N received The Best Poster presentation award at VDS Annual Conference, November 2023, Virginia Beach, VA for "Association between sunscreen metabolite and white blood cells in the US population".

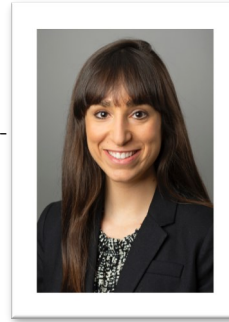
Bahniwal R won the Top Rapid-Fire Case Report Award at the CHEST 2023 annual conference for two of her Rapid-Fire presentations "A stitch in time saves nine; Right ventricular perforation repair during pacemaker lead extraction" and "Steroids steered us the wrong way: Lethal tumor lysis syndrome precipitated by a single dose of intravenous steroids."

Galicia-Castillo MC appeared on live television, the Hampton Roads Show to talk about November as National Hospice & Palliative Medicine month. Link to presentation is found [here](#).

Okhravi HR appeared on local television Channel 3 regarding the AHEAD 3-45 Clinical Trial Research Study. Link to video clip can be found [here](#).

Johnson DA Medscape Commentaries 10 November 2023, Can't-Mis Highlights From ACG 2023: Part 1 & Part 2. Link to video clips can be found here: [Part 1](#), [Part 2](#)

Galicia-Castillo MC & EVMS colleagues hosted the first local Palliative Medicine Conference in collaboration with physicians from Sentara - Li Y, & Virginia Oncology - Zhang Y.



Reminders:

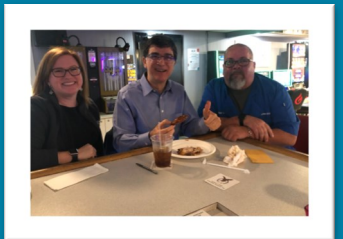
Grand Rounds, Wednesdays at noon in Waitzer Hall, Suite #300

- 12/6/23 - Bryan Carmody, MD
- 12/13/23 - Khalil Ghanem, MD, PhD
- Call for abstracts, Endocrine Society, (Boston, MA) due 12/06/23

Call for abstracts, Society for General Internal Medicine (Boston, MA) due 12/20/23

Call for abstracts, American Diabetes Association, due 1/8/24

Call for abstracts, Society for Cardiovascular Angiography & Interventions (Long Beach, CA) due 1/10/24



Please send updates to:
ProkopMP@evms.edu or
SillJD@evms.edu