

MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEAD

With the days getting longer and the weather getting warmer, spring brings opportunity for both reflection and growth. As a community of colleagues, we have continued to deliver high-quality patient-centered care during a time of turbulence and change within our healthcare system. Thank you for your ongoing contributions towards realizing both the DOM and CSM strategic priorities – your endeavours are noticed and appreciated.

I encourage you to participate in our upcoming DOM Day at the zoo on May 24; it is a great opportunity to learn more about what is going on within the department and to catch up with colleagues. The Office of the Vice Chair of Research is also holding a DOM Research Event on May 26, which promises to be a great opportunity to network with researchers in the department and learn about supports available from the CSM research institutes. More information about these two DOM events, including how to register, is within the newsletter.



*Dr. Jayna Holroyd-Leduc
Zone Clinical and
Academic Department Head*

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UPCOMING EVENTS WITHIN THE DOM

REGISTER: <https://forms.gle/V5CRiDfAtSDiEYJt5>



Department of Medicine

RSVP DOM DAY at the Zoo

SATURDAY MAY 24, 2025



DOM Members join us at the Calgary Zoo on May 24 to share time with your colleagues and learn more about the department at a community bar-b-que lunch. Entrance to the Zoo covered, including immediate family, so you can enjoy the day. Limited so RSVP soon.

REGISTER FOR DOM RESEARCH EVENT

DOM Research Event on May 26, 2025, in the HRIC Atrium from 4:30pm to 6:30pm.

[Register here for this event \(Form\)](#)

This event is an opportunity for DOM members with a research profile (as well as 1 or 2 of their trainees), to informally network with colleagues and meet with Institute Directors. This is also an opportunity for trainees to get feedback on their research, as they will be provided with the opportunity to display a poster of their research at the event.

Representatives from Snyder, McCaig, Charbonneau, Libin, O'Brien, Hotchkiss, and ACHRI institutes will be in attendance. They will each be briefly introducing their institute and highlighting benefits of membership in their institute, along with ways to engage.

NOTE: For DOM Members - registration form requires a headshot and a short introduction to your research focus (20 words), this will be run on a slide show during the event to encourage networking.

SAVE THE DATES

Save the Date

Department of Medicine
Saturday, November 15, 2025
DOM FACULTY & IMRP
2025 ANNUAL CELEBRATION DINNER

NEW FACULTY

SAVE THE DATE

DOM NEW FACULTY
ORIENTATION
SEPTEMBER 23, 2025

Those who joined the
DOM in the past 3 years
who have not previously
attended

LEADERSHIP & WELCOME ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please join us in welcoming the following members to their Leadership Roles.



LEADERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT: DIVISION/SECTION HEAD OF GERIATRIC MEDICINE & MEDICAL DIRECTOR, SPECIALIZED GERIATRIC SERVICES/ TRANSITION SERVICES

The Department of Medicine is pleased to announce that **Dr. Zahra Goodarzi** took on the role of **Division/Section Head of Geriatric Medicine, & Medical Director of Specialized Geriatric Services/Transition Services**, as of **April 1, 2025**.

Dr. Goodarzi is an Associate Professor in the Departments of Medicine, Clinical Neurosciences, and Community Health Sciences and is one of Canada's only movement disorders geriatricians. She is also a member of the O'Brien Institute for Public Health and the Hotchkiss Brain Institute. Dr. Goodarzi has been the Deputy Division Head of Geriatric Medicine prior to moving into this role. She is the Program Director for the UCalgary Leaders in Medicine program and co-leads both the Calgary Geriatric ED Task Force and the Calgary Restraint Reduction Committee. She is co-chair of the DOM Equity, Diversity, and Anti-Racism Action Committee and holds external roles as the Sex and Gender Lead for the Canadian Consortium Neuro-degeneration on Aging and the Chair of the National Special Interest Group on Restraint Reduction.

In her spare time, Dr. Goodarzi can be found chasing a hilarious and verbose two year old, crafting — including Jewelry making and leather work, and enjoying the mountains with family.

We also want to thank Dr. Karen Fruetel for her years of service as the Section/Division Head of Geriatric Medicine. During her tenure, Dr. Fruetel effectively led the division as it grew and increased its impact on both clinical services and academic contributions.

WELCOME TO THE DEPARTMENT: QUALITY & PROCESS IMPROVEMENT CONSULTANT



The Department of Medicine is pleased to announce that Arooj Nazir has taken on the role of Quality and Process Improvement Consultant as of March 17, 2024. Arooj joins the Health Analytics & Quality Improvement Team within the Department of Medicine. Arooj will support the Department's mission and vision through developing, coordinating, and executing quality & process improvement initiatives.

Arooj has previously held a Clinical Research Associate role in AHS, where she successfully managed oncology and hematology trials, conducted regulatory submissions and data management, and implemented process improvements that optimized research operations. Additionally, she has experience in data science, and analyzed complex scientific data at Nimble Science. Arooj holds a master's degree in Precision Health (Precision Medicine) from UCalgary, where she focused on integrating big data tools and molecular biology within clinical contexts to drive healthcare transformation. Additionally, she earned a Bachelor of Science in Bioinformatics. She is passionate about optimizing clinical operations and leveraging data analytics to enhance efficiency, compliance, and overall patient outcomes.

Beyond the professional realm Arooj enjoys spending time with her husband and two boys, listening to inspirational and thought-provoking podcasts and being out in nature. She also loves meeting new people and building meaningful connections. She has a passion for growing indoor plants such as pathos and bird of paradise, and has a secret wish to have a plant lab in her basement.

AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Join us in congratulating the following members for their achievements over the past few months



AFMC WELLNESS AWARD

Congratulations to Dr. Jane Lemaire for receiving the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada, AFMC Wellness Award. This award recognizes an individual in Canada who has shown dedication to the promotion and advancement of the wellness of physicians, medical students, residents, fellows, and/or researchers, graduate students, and post-doctoral scholars. [Read more](#)



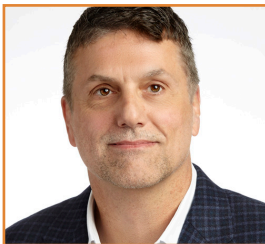
AFMC CLINICAL TEACHER AWARD

Congratulations to Dr. Irene Ma for receiving the AFMC Clinical Teacher Award which recognizes excellence in clinical teaching by an individual faculty member in a Faculty of Medicine in Canada. This award was established in 2014 and is intended to emphasize the importance of clinical teaching in academic medicine.



GLOBE & MAIL REPORT ON BUSINESS TOP 20 CHANGE MAKERS OF CANADA

Congratulations to Dr. Kelle Hurd on being selected as one of the top 20 change makers of Canada by the Globe & Mail Report on Business. This is awarded to young entrepreneurs, academics, activists, and other professionals devoted to make the world a greater place.



CASL-CLF GOLD MEDAL AWARD

Congratulations to Dr. Mark Swain on receiving the CASL (Canadian Association for the Study of the Liver) -CLF (Canadian Liver Foundation) Gold Medal Award which recognizes an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to liver-related research. Each year, CASL invites its members to provide nominations for the CASL-CLF Gold Medal in recognition of outstanding achievements in research and science in hepatology



ALBERTA HEALTH CANCER RESEARCH FOR SCREENING AND PREVENTION PROGRAM FUND

Congratulations to Dr. Kareem Jamani (DOM) and Dylan O'Sullivan (Cancer epidemiology) as co-PI's were awarded a 340K grant to examine cancer screening after allo and auto-HCT as part of the Cancer Research for Screening and Prevention Program Fund from Alberta Health.



PRACTICE REFLECTION AWARD - GOLD AND BRONZE AWARDS

Congratulations to Dr. Aurore Fifi-Mah for receiving the Practice Reflection Awards (Bronze and Gold) from the Canadian Rheumatology Association. The CRA Practice Reflection Award recognizes the importance of reflection and practice change to ultimately improve patient care. This award encourages CRA members to develop innovative and practical self-assessment programs and quality improvement (QI) initiatives.

AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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CIHR PROJECT GRANT PRIORITY ANNOUNCEMENT

Congratulations to Dr. Raynell Lang for receiving a Project Grant - Priority Announcement HIV/AIDS and STBBI / Subvention for the project "Trauma Related Experiences; evaluating Impact, enhancing Understanding and Mobilizing interventions to improve outcomes among People with HIV (TRIUMPH)"



CIHR PROJECT GRANT PRIORITY ANNOUNCEMENT

Congratulations to Dr. Leslie Skeith for receiving a Project Grant - Priority Announcement Patient-Oriented Research for the project "The PARTUM (Postpartum Aspirin to Reduce Thromboembolism Undue Morbidity) Trial"



CIHR PROJECT GRANT

Congratulations to Dr. Gilaad Kaplan for receiving a CIHR Project Grant for the project "Managing the Burden of Inflammatory Bowel Disease over the Next Decade: A National Study of the Canadian Gastro-Intestinal Epidemiology Consortium (CanGIEC)"



CIHR PROJECT GRANT

Congratulations to Dr. Alexander Leung for receiving a CIHR Project Grant for the project "Nuclear Imaging for Subtyping Primary Aldosteronism"



CIHR PROJECT GRANT

Congratulations to Dr. Yasmin Nasser for receiving a CIHR Project Grant for the project "The interaction of sex hormones and bacterial metabolites in inflammatory bowel disease-associated chronic visceral pain."



CIHR TEAM GRANT

Congratulations to Dr. Carla Coffin (PI) as a recipient of a CIHR Team Grant on Hepatitis B Functional Cure with the Canadian Hepatitis B Network and the woodchuck model. This team grant is in collaboration with Toronto and Ottawa and includes 5 co-applicants from UCalgary.

AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Join us in congratulating the following members for their achievements over the past few months



KING CHARLES III CORONATION MEDAL

Congratulations to Dr. Marcelo Tonelli and Dr. Braden Manns for receiving the King Charles III Coronation Medal honouring world-class leaders in kidney care. [Read more at kidney.ca](#)

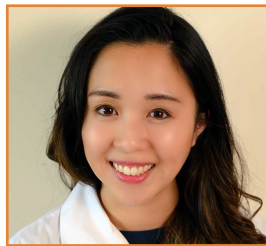


CHS/PFIZER CARE UNTIL CURE RESEARCH GRANT

Congratulations to Dr. Kelsey Uminski on receiving the CHS/Pfizer Care until Cure Research Grant which enables Canadian researchers to undertake studies focusing on both medical and psychosocial aspects of bleeding disorders, including outcome evaluations. The program aims to enhance the health quality of life for individuals affected by these conditions.



Dr. Olga Ziouzina
Distinguished
Rheumatologist



Dr. May Choi
Innovation
of the Year



Dr. Martha Decker
Long Service
Award

AMA SECTION OF RHEUMATOLOGY

Three members of the Division of Rheumatology have been recognized in the AMA Section of Rheumatology Awards 2024.

Congratulations to Dr. Olga Ziouzina being recognized as Distinguished Rheumatologist, Dr. May Choi for being awarded the Innovation of the Year and Dr. Martha Decker receiving the award for Long Service.



DOM HEALTH ANALYTICS & QUALITY AWARD COMPETITION

Congratulations to Dr. Leila Barss and Dr. Rachel Lim from the division of Respiriology, for being selected as winners of the 8th Annual Department of Medicine Health Analytics & Quality Award Competition. This award of \$40,000 will support the work "Reducing unnecessary airborne isolation time for hospitalized patient with suspected pulmonary tuberculosis: A Quality Improvement initiative".



DOM HEALTH ANALYTICS & QUALITY AWARD COMPETITION

Congratulations to Dr. Melissa Schorr and Dr. Helen Tam-Tham from the division of Nephrology, for being selected as winners of the 8th Annual Department of Medicine Health Analytics & Quality Award Competition. This award of \$20,000 will support the work "Enhancing symptom identification, management, and reporting in conservative kidney management: a quality improvement project".

AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Join us in congratulating the following members for their achievements over the past few months



NOMINATE AN UNSUNG HERO

Please continue to nominate your colleagues who make your life a little easier in the Department of Medicine. We want to recognize all the unsung hero's in our department and they will be announced during Medical Grand Rounds on Tuesday mornings. **Please email Dr. Chandra Thomas Chandra.thomas@ahs.ca your nominations** and a few words about why you're nominating that person.

PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED AT MEDICAL GRAND ROUNRS UNSUNG HERO'S RECAP

January

Jan 21

Dr. Michelle Geddes

Jan 28

DOM Peer Support Team

February:

Feb 4

Drs. Michelle Desreux,
Hayden Rubensohn & Kahn Ali

Feb 11

Dr. Eric Campbell

Feb 24

All Faculty & Residents who participated in the IMRP CaRMS evaluation process

March

March 4

Dr. Kristen Brown

March 11

Drs. Waleed Rahmani & Meghann Pasternak

March 18

Dr. Ngan Lam

FOOTHILLS CAMPUS COMMUNITY PANTRY

NEW: Ability to send monetary donations for the community pantry though this giving page.
<https://engage.ucalgary.ca/Foothills Pantry>



CSM continues to host a Community Pantry in the Health Sciences Centre Atrium (by the staircase near the Hippocrates statue). If you would like to donate to help stock the pantry, please see the list of [suggested items on the website](#). This is a community initiative and therefore any items should just be added directly into the pantry (items are not collected).

[Full Information](#)

INTRODUCTION TO MINDFULNESS

Register: https://engage.ucalgary.ca/NTT_AprilMay2025

NAVIGATING TURBULENT TIMES

An Introduction to Mindfulness

Facilitators:

Dr. Ward
Flemons



Dr. Simon
Colgan and friends

Dates April 7, 14, 21, 28; May 5, 12

Time 6:30 to 8 pm

Location W21C – Cal Wenzel Precision Health Bldg (and Online)
3280 Hospital Drive NW

Cost \$34 / \$19 students + residents (+ GST)

Register https://engage.ucalgary.ca/NTT_AprilMay2025

Centre for Mindfulness

<https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/centres/centre-mindfulness/home>

DOM PEER SUPPORT TEAM



Department of Medicine Peer Support Team

For questions or a list of the Peer Support Team members contact:

Dr. Jane Lemaire
Peer Support Team Physician Coordinator
lemaire@ucalgary.ca

The practice of medicine is rewarding but may at times be challenging. At some point, you may feel the need to seek support from a colleague.

The Department of Medicine has a group of formally trained peer supporters available as a resource for our colleagues. We encourage you to bring forth **any issue at any time**.

Any of our peer supporters listed on the contact information sheet can be reached through email or cell phone to set up a time to connect.

Department of Medicine



CENTRALIZED ASSOCIATE PHYSICIAN PROGRAM / TRANSITION OF ASSOCIATE PHYSICIANS WITHIN THE DOM

Remi Adelugba, Program Manager for the Centralized Associate Physician Program

Key Transition Details:

- Effective Date: The transition will take place on April 1st, 2025.
- What's Changing: Associate Physicians will now report under the new centralized program.
- Program Leadership: Dr. Marlis Sabo (Medical Lead) and Remi Adelugba will be leading the Centralized AP Program as dyads.
- Department Leadership: Dr. Alejandra Boscan (GIM), Dr. Lynn Savoie (Heme), Dr. Chris Hergott (Resp-FMC), Dr. Dina Fisher (Resp-PLC), Dr. Jenn MacRae (Neph)
- Human Resources Matters: Effective April 1st, 2025, all Human Resource (HR) matters and transactions for Associate Physicians will be handled by Remi Adelugba.
- Team Support: Becky Hagen (Team Lead) will now provide leadership and support for the program administrators. Mara Santos, Saleha Samady, Amie Morrison, Shanley Zanidean and Katherine Rios, will also transition with the program and manage the AP scheduling.
- Work Locations: current work locations will remain unchanged.

"I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Allison Mirotchnik for her tremendous efforts in supporting this transition. We are grateful for her continued expertise as we roll out the new program." - Remi Adelugba

TEACHING OPPORTUNITIES (CLERKSHIP TEACHING)

IM clerkship Bedside teaching (BST): 1-3pm every Wednesday at FMC. As a preceptor, you will supervise a group of 4-6 clinical clerks perform select physical examination maneuvers on patients. One clerk is responsible for recruiting patients and leading the session. There is no preparation required for BST. Often there is a focus (eg. volume assessment, cardiac examination, examine for ascites etc)

IM teaching Sessions: Two 1-hour teaching seminars take place every Wednesday (3:15-4:15 and 4:15-5:15). These sessions are held virtually on zoom. 10-17 clerks attend each session. You can teach on a topic of your choice! Teaching topics generally include core Internal Medicine or subspecialty topics that are case-based and high yield for the MCC (Medical Council of Canada) exam.

Here are the links to teaching for the next few months

- [Class of 2025: IM Clerkship Bedside Teaching](#)
- [Class of 2025: IM Teaching sessions](#)

R3 PROBLEM BASED LEARNING

Dates needed April 9 and May 21, 1 – 5 pm

All sessions will be held over Zoom. All material is provided. Sessions will run from 12:45 - approx. 4:45 pm.

[Sign Up Genius](#)

PGY3 OSCE

Dates needed April 16 & 30, 1 – 5 pm

The Standard OSCE exam is a formative exam, meaning that it is for resident practice only. Although the stations are marked, this feedback is for residents only and will not be part of their file. The stations are designed in a similar format to the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada Internal Medicine Specialty Examination. There will be 6 stations, each station will be 12 minutes long with 2 additional minutes for feedback. All information will be provided.

[Sign Up Genius](#)

RESIDENT RESEARCH DAY

The Internal Medicine Residency Program is looking for faculty to help during our **Research Day on May 7, 2025**. We need volunteers to be **small group facilitators, poster judges and judges for the oral presentations**. Please [review the available slots](#) in this [SignUpGenius link](#) and sign up. Research Day is not the success it is without all your help. Thank you!!

2025 Resident Research Day Agenda

- Full group presentations in O'Brien Centre, Theatre 4,
 - Poster presentation in HRIC Atrium
 - Small Group Presentations in Med Skills Area.
- | | |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:30 – 9:00 | Registration/Sign In & Continental Breakfast (Theatre 4) |
| 9:00 – 9:05 | Welcome & Opening Remarks (Theatre 4) |
| 9:05 – 10:15 | Oral Presentation Session (Theatre 4) |
| 10:15 – 10:30 | Break (15 minutes) |
| 10:30 – 12:00 | Poster Presentation Session (HRIC Atrium) |
| 12:00 – 1:00 | Lunch (HRIC Atrium) |
| 1:00 – 2:15 | Small Group Presentations (Med Skills Area) |
| 2:15 – 2:30 | Break (15 minutes) |
| 2:30 - 3:30 | Faculty Short Snappers (Theatre 4) |
| 3:30 - 3:45 | Break (15 minutes) |
| 3:45 - 4:00 | Presentation of Awards & Closing Remarks (Theatre 4) |
| 4:00 | End of Resident Research Day |

DOM RESIDENT TRAVEL GRANT

Information about the DOM Resident Travel Grant can be found on the DOM Website under research. <https://cumming.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/95/dom-resident-travel-grant.pdf>

The purpose is to help support residents within the department to present their research at National and International conferences and research meetings.

CSM GRANT DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Current opportunities, timelines and application information

NSERC CREATE [\(LINK\)](#)

The 2025 intake for the NSERC 2026 Collaborative Research and Training Experience (CREATE) program has launched, which supports the development of highly qualified trainees through innovative training programs.

Regular CREATE Stream:

NSERC has set an allocation of three Regular Stream LOIs for UCalgary.

- RSO Internal Deadline (LOI): April 24, 2025 - Noon

New: Genomics CREATE Stream

- RSO Internal Deadline (LOI): April 24, 2025 - Noon

Interested faculty must notify the Grant Development Office (parneetpriya.jaggi@ucalgary.ca) and Research Services (ipd@ucalgary.ca) by February 28, 2025. The Letter of Intent (LOI) template will become available mid-March, and will be shared with all applicants. For full details, visit [NSERC CREATE](#) (webpage update for the 2025 intake is pending).

TRIANGLE EARLY CAREER RESEARCHER (ECR) SECURE AWARDS

[TRIANGLE](#) focuses on providing innovative, tailored, and targeted support to ECRs. All projects must focus on gastrointestinal (GI) or liver research.

- RSO Internal Deadline: May 27, 2025 - Noon

FULL RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES DATABASE

<https://research.ucalgary.ca/conduct-research/funding/database>

OFD SURVEY - YOUR CAREER. YOUR GROWTH. YOUR CHOICE

OFD is here to support your career - whether it's leadership, mentorship, coaching, teaching, technology, or academic growth. But we don't believe in one-size-fits-all programs. We want to build what you need - and that's where you come in.

Here's your chance to tell us what's missing, what's working, and what would actually make a difference in your professional life. Your responses to this quick, 10-minute survey will help us make the changes you want to see!

Your voice matters...please complete the survey by April 22, 2025! [SURVEY LINK](#)

SEXUAL VIOLENCE AWARENESS EDUCATION

Join Kiara Mikita, PhD, the Sexual Violence Educator for CSM and AHS, as she engages with Paula Russel, BSW, RSW, Acting Manager of UCalgary's Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Support Office for these sessions that offer 5 takeaways that learners can implement into their personal and professional practices. [Click here to see all upcoming lunch hour learning sessions.](#)

- **5 Assumptions You Might Be Making About How You Show Up in the World |**
April 16, 2025 | 12:10 - 12:50 | ZOOM | [Register](#)
- **5 Strategies to Create Comfort & Safety When Discussing Harm**
April 23, 2025 | 12:10 - 12:50 | ZOOM | [Register](#)

CSM TEACHING EXCELLENCE PROGRAM (CSM TEP)

We're excited to announce that CSM TEP will have additional cohort intakes for Fall 2025! This comprehensive faculty development program empowers educators at every stage—from beginners to seasoned experts—offering a learning experience that aligns with OFD's strategic vision. Through interactive sessions, you'll gain practical skills, fresh insights, and innovative strategies to engage today's learners like never before. Don't miss this unique opportunity to grow, connect, and take your teaching to the next level! [Visit our website on the dates below to access the application links.](#)

- Track I: Teaching Fundamentals - Open for Applications on May 6
- Track II: Advancing Educators - Open for Applications on June 3

SAVE THE DATES

- CSM New Faculty Orientation - October 7
- Artificial Intelligence In Medicine Symposium - October 17
- How to get promoted - October 27 (In person) & October 29 (Virtual)