



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Garvey Fellows
- Research Committee Update
- Dr. Matthew Spitzer joins CFCM
- CFCM & Haiti
- Dental Pipeline
- Drs. Lewy & Formicola
- Residents Graduate

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CFCM Family Physicians Visit Haiti

Family physicians, Drs. Carmen Dominguez-Rafer and Ayesha Siddiqui went to Haiti with uncertainty and came back re-energized and inspired by international compassion and goodness they witnessed in the face of adversity and dire need. They found themselves devising creative solutions that allowed them to do their medical work with limited resources and huge communication barriers. And they realized that their daily struggle with tragedy and their own personal difficulties were largely offset by the indefatigable hope and gratitude expressed by the Haitians they cared for.



Drs. Dominguez-Rafer & Siddiqui

"Haiti was such a mind boggling, physically and mentally challenging and heart wrenching, but fulfilling experience...I am still spinning from its memory although I am so glad to be back (in a Miami hotel).....it has brought back a lot of palpable feelings and the renewed belief in everyone's capacity at unlimited humanity, camaraderie, solidarity and faith. Many times I almost cried from both fear and joy and then felt renewal when another much less fortunate than myself quipped "merci"....We all should do this to remember why we are here in this world and how utterly, utterly fortunate we are!" said Dr. Dominguez-Rafer upon her return.

"Haiti was such a mind boggling physically and mentally challenging and heart wrenching, but fulfilling experience..."

Dr. Carmen Dominguez-Rafer

New Family Medicine Residency Director



Dr. Heather Paladine

The Center for Family and Community Medicine recently named Dr. Heather Paladine as the new Family Medicine Residency Director. Dr. Paladine attended Columbia College and Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York. She completed a residency in Family Medicine at Oregon Health and Science University and went on to do a fellowship in Maternal and Children's Health Care at California Hospital in Los Angeles. Her interests include women's health, medical education, technology in medicine, and health care for underserved patients. Dr. Paladine was previously the Associate Residency Director at CFCM for two years.

Dr. Joanne Dempster will assume the position as Family Medicine Residency Program Associate Director. Dr. Carmen Dominguez-Rafer, the previous Residency Director, will continue as Associate Director for the Center for Family and Community Medicine.

CFCM Director's Corner

Dear Colleagues,

As Jay-Z and Alicia Keys sing it:
*New York, concrete jungle where dreams are made of—
 There's nothin' you can't do now you're in New York
 These streets will make you feel brand new
 The lights will inspire you.
 Let's hear it for New York*

In a city that prides itself in being the best, there is an overlooked need—the availability of well-trained, practicing, accessible primary care physicians. Family Medicine represents the epitome of primary care practice. We are trained to care for the whole person, the whole family—no matter how family is defined. How about nutrition, that pesky knee pain, those stresses at work? How about prevention, birth control, counseling? And what if I'm sick, who will help me find the right specialist and be there to negotiate the bewildering health system?



Dr. Kathleen Klink

The family physicians' "specialty" (paradoxically) is "generalism." Generalism is not the absence of specialist training, but rather it is a way of thinking and an approach to problem solving, diagnosing and treating quite different from the specialist. Policy makers and those who pay for health care (government and employers) realize this, and are starting to pour money into training and practice support for primary care, particularly family medicine.

Another area where Family Medicine is finding an important niche is international health. With training in community assessment, population health, the mother-child dyad, including maternity care, emergency interventions and basic surgical technique, family physicians are excellent field doctors, and are being recruited for positions in developing nations where the need is great.

"New York, concrete jungle where dreams are made of. These streets will make you feel brand new." And Family Medicine can help.

Visiting Physician from the United Kingdom



Dr. Numa Thebe

CFCM has the privilege of hosting Dr. Numa Thebe, a visiting physician from the United Kingdom, for most of this year, 2010. Dr. Thebe completed medical school (Guy's, King's & St. Thomas' School of Medicine [King's College, London]) in 2007, and two years of basic post graduate clinical rotations. She is planning on pursuing a career in Family Medicine/General Practice, but thought this year would be a good natural break in her training to spend some time in the United States before committing to the next step in the British system, which is the three year residency program. Dr. Thebe will be participating in activities involving creating a data-base for the patient centered medical home, and working with Dr. Susan Lin and others on data collection and analysis.

Dr. Matthew Spitzer Joins CFCM

Dr. Matthew Spitzer joined our faculty in February, 2010 as the Predoctoral Director. Dr. Spitzer has a number of credentials he will be bringing to the Center for Family and Community Medicine including a degree from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and credentialing in acupuncture from the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.

He is a graduate of Cornell University Medical College where he was elected to AOA, and holds a BA degree from Yale where he graduated cum laude with distinction in philosophy. He did his residency training in Family Medicine at UCSF. He is the current president of Medecins Sans Frontieres/Doctors without Borders – USA, and has served as clinician for MSF in Africa and in China.



Dr. Matthew Spitzer

Updates from CFCM Research Committee

Primary care Practice-Based Research Networks (PBRNs) are groups of ambulatory practices devoted principally to the primary care of patients that have come together to investigate questions related to community-based practice and to improve the quality of primary care. PBRNs link practicing clinicians with interest and experience in clinical and health services research. The best of PBRN efforts apply rigorous research methods to relevant clinical or policy in community settings to produce scientific information that is externally valid, and which can be applied to everyday practice.



Dr. Younge

Drs. Elaine Fleck (General Medicine) and Richard Younge (CFCM) received a planning grant from the Irving Institute for Clinical and Translational Research to develop research agenda for the NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital and Columbia University Medical Center PBRN-the Ambulatory Care Research Network (ACRN).

The planning grant supported a one day seminar that was attended by ACRN clinicians and researchers from Physicians & Surgeons, Mailman School of Public Health, the School of Nursing, and NYS Psychiatric Institute. Dr. Harold Pincus gave a presentation on Comparative Effectiveness Research. Dr. Rowena Dolor from Duke described the research activities of the Primary Care Research Consortium-a highly regarded PBRN. Jean Slutsky, Director of AHRQ's Center for Outcomes and Evidence, provided a federal perspective. ACRN also submitted a pilot study proposal to the Irving Institute to test a community based family education intervention to promote weight loss in obese diabetic patients.

The Washington Heights Inwood Initiative and the new Ambulatory Care Network Patient Centered Medical Home present opportunities for ACRN to study and evaluate the process and outcomes of these transformative projects. Ambulatory Care Network clinicians and other individuals or groups who have interests in developing primary care research projects or who would like more information about ACRN are encouraged to contact Dr. Younge at CFCM.

"The best of PBRN efforts apply rigorous research methods to relevant clinical or policy in community settings...."

Dr. Richard Younge

2010 Family Medicine Residency Graduation

CFCM hosted the 2010 Residents Graduation Ceremony scheduled on Thursday, June 10, 2010. This was the 11th year of the Family Medicine Residency Graduation Ceremony.

Graduates include (pictured): Drs. Judy Chertok, Jesse Kayal, Benjamin Nordby, Kristen Semanision, Princess Skyers and Heather Tindall.

The Family Medicine Residency Program at the New York-Presbyterian Hospital (Columbia University Medical Center) is committed to training physicians who want to care for patients and their families, particularly those with problems unique to urban underserved communities. This program strives to teach its residents how to develop systems that can improve the health of whole communities.



2010 Family Medicine Residency Graduates

CFCM Awards Dr. Jason Hove

Class Day 2010 was held on Monday, May 17th for the College of Physicians and Surgeons. Dr. Jason Hove (P&S Class of 2010) was selected to receive an award on behalf of CFCM. Dr. Hove will be heading to California to start his residency in Family Medicine at the University of California in Los Angeles. Congratulations Dr. Hove!

CFCM Welcomes the 2010 First Year Residents

In June, CFCM welcomed the 2010 First Year Residents to the Family Medicine Program. The six residents are: Bonnie Chang, DO; Mona Dalal, MD; Jillion Harris, MD, MBA; Parham Khalili, MD; Lisa Singh, MD; and, Venis Wilder, MD.

This diverse group of residents have various areas of interests including: women and children's health, international health, health education, domestic violence health, health care delivery systems, and healthcare for the underserved.

All the First Year Residents noted that the Columbia University Medical Center Family Residency program was among their top choice due to the services provided to the underserved; working with diverse faculty, residents and communities; learning new languages, and the strong family and community medicine focus.



First Year Residents are: Bonnie Chang, DO; Mona Dalal, MD; Jillion Harris, MD, MBA; Parham Khalili, MD (not pictured); Lisa Singh, MD; and, Venis Wilder, MD.

Residents' Corner

The Center for Family and Community Medicine trains medical students and residents who are committed to excellence, anchored in the core values of the discipline, by adapting to diverse patient and community needs. The importance of primary care and preventive services is now more relevant than ever before. The Family Medicine Residency Program at the New York-Presbyterian Hospital (Columbia University Medical Center) exists in this charged milieu. The program is committed to training physicians who want to care for patients and their families, particularly those with problems unique to urban underserved areas. This program strives to teach its residents how to develop systems that can improve the health of whole communities. It encourages educating other fellow practitioners on the impact and influence of Family Medicine, and most importantly, aspires to create change. In short, the Family Medicine Residency Program is recruiting and training leaders for tomorrow's health care.

In their intern year, residents spend one month in the Community-Oriented Primary Care (COPC) block rotation, during which they receive didactic education on the different populations and agencies in the community. Residents also learn the basics of medical Spanish, gain proficiency in the computerized informatics systems at the medical center, and become familiar with various health related epidemiological data bases as well as the research process. In their second and third years, residents participate in community service, community educational initiatives and outreach (the elderly in senior citizen centers, adolescents in schools, needle exchange programs, the homeless, etc) while working continuously for the remaining 2 years on a chosen COPC project with the community. Project outcomes are reported prior to graduation from training.



CFCM Family Medicine Residents

Dr. Robert Lewy Retires from CUMC

Robert Lewy, MD, MPH, Senior Associate Dean of Health Affairs announced his retirement from Columbia University Medical Center after 35 years of service. Dr. Lewy was the Senior Associate Dean for Health Affairs, a position which he has held since 1998. As Senior Associate Dean he was responsible for overseeing all health and safety programs including: environmental health and safety, occupational health and safety, radiation safety and student health at the Columbia University Medical Center. Dr. Lewy was also an Associate Professor of Medicine and Public Health, and served as Director of the Center for Continuing Medical Education and as Interim Director of the Center for Family and Community Medicine from 2007-2009.



Dr. Robert Lewy

Previously, Dr. Lewy was the Senior Vice President of Medical Affairs at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, and, as the only Family Physician at Presbyterian Hospital, was instrumental in developing Family Medicine at the Hospital and at Columbia University. He was responsible for hiring many of the current Family Medicine faculty.

Dr. Lewy is establishing the *Robert Lewy Family Medicine Scholarship Fund* to provide opportunities in Family Medicine to medical students. Additional information about the Fund and donations to the Fund can be made by contacting the Center for Family and Community Medicine at (212) 304-5214.

Dr. Allan Formicola Retires from CUMC



Dr. Allan Formicola

Dr. Allan Formicola was honored at a reception hosted by the College of Dental Medicine on Tuesday, June 8, 2010. He is retiring after 32 years of service at the Columbia University Medical Center.

Allan J. Formicola, DDS, MS, is Professor of Dentistry and former dean of the Columbia University College of Dental Medicine (1978-2001). He is the founder of the Center for Community Health Partnerships, which merged into the Center for Family and Community Medicine at Columbia University. Dr. Formicola initiated the collaboration between Columbia University Medical Center, Alianza Dominicana, and Harlem Hospital Medical Center to establish the Northern Manhattan Community Voices Collaborative. Under his leadership as Dean of the College of Dental Medicine, the Community DentCare network was developed and the Thelma C. Davidson Adair Medical & Dental Center established. He currently directs or co-directs a number of national foundation projects dealing with oral health disparities and a lack of access to dental care. He has authored and co-authored over 74 journal and book chapters. His

newest book, co-edited with Dr. Lourdes Hernandez-Cordero entitled, *Mobilizing the Community for Better Health: What the Rest of America Can Learn From Northern Manhattan*, will be released in the fall. Prior to arriving at Columbia, Dr. Formicola served on the faculty of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, the New Jersey Dental School, in successive roles as Chairman of the Department of Periodontics, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Acting Dean. Previously he held faculty appointments at the University of Alabama Birmingham, School of Dentistry and at Georgetown University, School of Dentistry.

The Formicola Fellowship Fund was established at the Columbia University College of Dental Medicine in 2001, to pay tribute to Dean Formicola's commitment to addressing disparities in oral health access, providing support for dental or postdoctoral students and junior faculty dedicated to addressing issues of access to care. For more information about the Fund or to donate, please contact Ms. Geraldine Connors at gc2399@columbia.edu or (212) 342 5612.



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MISSION STATEMENT

The Center for Family and Community Medicine seeks to enhance the health of our community through education, service, research, and academic-community partnerships.

Dental Pipeline Monograph Conference

On May 5-6, 2010, the Pipeline, Profession & Practice: Community-Based Dental Education program (Dental Pipeline), hosted a conference at the American Dental Association (ADA) Headquarters in Chicago, Illinois to present papers that will be included as a monograph in an upcoming supplemental issue of the Journal of Dental Education. The monograph, *Strategies for Operating Community-Based Dental Education and Underrepresented Minority Recruitment and Enrollment Programs*, will provide dental schools with practical, effective strategies to manage community education and minority recruitment programs. The papers have been authored by an outstanding group of project directors, deans and academicians who are nationally recognized for their expertise. We were pleased to have each of the lead authors present at the ADA during the two-day conference, where participants included members of the National Advisory Committee, the American Dental Education Association and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation as well as community clinic directors and representatives from each of the 23 Pipeline schools.



Dr. Mary Jo Fink Honored At CUMC



Dr. Mary Jo Fink

The Glenda Garvey Teaching Academy announced 16 new Fellows on April 14, 2010 at the Dr. Thomas Q. Morris Symposium on Medical Education at the Columbia University Medical Center. Among the 16 new Fellows is our very own Dr. Mary Jo Fink.

Established in 2005 to honor the educational commitment of the late Glenda Garvey, MD, the Academy rewards and strengthens teaching methods by identifying top educators to maintain the highest standards in teaching and to improve the medical center's educational mission by seeking innovation in teaching and learning.