

IU GERIATRICS e-news for FEBRUARY 2005

The IU Geriatrics Program and the [IU Center for Aging Research](#) were featured on the School of Medicine's website in "IU Geriatrics Programs Garner National Recognition." [Click here](#) to read the news release about our top tier Program!

GRANTS

The [Indianapolis Retirement Home Fund](#) of the Central Indiana Community Foundation has awarded a one-year grant in the amount of \$47,350 to the Wishard Memorial Foundation to fund a pilot program to be conducted by Senior Care at Wishard. Congratulations to **Kathy Frank, RN, DNS**, Geriatrics Program Administrator, who spearheaded this proposal.

The purpose of this grant is to develop a program that bridges the gap in quality health care for 100 low-income patients aged 65 or older who visit the Wishard Emergency Department and do not have a primary care physician. A geriatrics nurse practitioner and social worker will provide a complete assessment of the patient in their home to develop a care plan that addresses the geriatric needs of the patient/family. This nurse practitioner and social worker will then help identify a primary care physician for the patient, collaborate with this physician to jointly follow the patient, implement the care plan, connect with community services, and bridge the gap by coordinating the patient care activities up to a maximum of six months, depending on the patient's needs.

AWARD

Congratulations go to **Robin Beck, MD**, the winner of the 2005 Achievement In Medicine Award presented on February 4, 2005, by the St. Margaret's Hospital Guild. The award honors a member of the Indianapolis-area medical community who upholds the tradition of excellence in healthcare for women. Robin joined IU Geriatrics in 1999, created the House Calls for Seniors program where she is medical director, sees primary care patients in the IU Center for Senior Health, and provides consultations on the Acute Care for Elders Unit at Wishard Hospital.

Steve Counsell, MD, describes Robin as an unsung hero whose "participation with the interdisciplinary teams in a variety of care settings has been inspiring to both physicians and staff." We all say, "Well done, Robin!"

PUBLICATIONS

Damush TM, Perkins SM, Mikesky AE, Roberts M, O'Dea J. [Motivational factors influencing older adults diagnosed with knee osteoarthritis to join and maintain an exercise program](#). Journal of Aging and Physical Activity. 2005 Jan;13(1):45-60.

Terrell KM, Brizendine EJ, Bean WF, Giles BK, Davidson JR, Evers S, Stier PA, Cordell WH. [An extended care facility-to-emergency department transfer form improves communication](#). Acad Emerg Med. 2005 Feb;12(2):114-8.

Hays L, **Damush TM**, **Clark DO**. Relationship between exercise self-definitions and exercise participation among urban women in primary care. Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing. 2005 Jan-Feb;20(1):9-17.

Andresen EM, Malmstrom TK, **Miller DK**, Miller JP, Wolinsky FD. [Retest reliability of self-reported function, self-care, and disease history](#). Med Care. 2005 Jan;43(1):93-7.

Farlow MR, Lilly ML. Rivastigmine: An open-label, observational study of safety and effectiveness in [treating patients with Alzheimer's Disease for up to 5 years](#). BMC Geriatr. 2005 Jan 19;5(1):3 [Epub ahead of print]

PRESENTATIONS

Lisa Riolo, PhD, PT, NCS, presented "Fall Risk in Older Adults" at the Indiana University Conference on Aging and Living Well on January 28, 2005 in Indianapolis, IN. The conference was sponsored by IU's School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation (HPER) and the IU Alumni Club of Indianapolis.

Martin Farlow, MD, presented “Current Trends, Therapy, and the Future in Alzheimer’s Disease Research” at the Indiana University Conference on Aging and Living Well on January 28, 2005 in Indianapolis.

Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH, presented grand rounds entitled, “Managing Delirium in Hospitalized Older Adults” on February 9, 2005, at the Bluffton Regional Medical Center in Bluffton, Indiana. The audience was family medicine, internal medicine and cardiology physicians, surgeons and other health care providers at the Center.

Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH, was an invited speaker and presented "Behavioral Management of Dementia from Diagnosis to Death" on February 12 at the 16th Annual Conference “Challenges in Geriatric Practice” held in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. The conference was presented by the University of North Carolina School of Medicine Program on Aging.

Linda Williams, MD, presented the abstract “How Valid are Family Proxy Quality of Life Ratings in Stroke?” at the American Heart Association International Stroke Meeting on February 4, 2005, in New Orleans. She also made an oral presentation of the abstract at the [VA’s Health Services Research & Development 2005 National Meeting](#) held February 16-18, in Baltimore, Maryland. Co-authors with ties to IUCAR were **Tamilyn Bakas, DNS, RN**, and **Wanzhu Tu, PhD**. The meeting emphasized presenting methodologies and results on productive patient/provider interactions, specifically improvements in care which are evidence-based, population-based, or patient-centered.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Michael Weiner, MD, MPH, attended the workshop, “Introduction to the Use of Medicare Data for Research,” January 24-26, 2005, in Houston, Texas. This [Research Data Assistance Center](#) (ResDAC) workshop familiarized the audience with the use of Medicare administrative data for research and covered the origin, flow, quality and research applications of Medicare data. ResDAC workshops also help researchers learn how claims-based studies might explore important health care issues.

Chris Callahan, MD, was invited and participated in a conference at the University of Pennsylvania Center for Bioethics on "The Use of Artificial Nutrition and Hydration" on January 27-29 in Philadelphia.

Teresa Damush, PhD, attended the VA’s Health Services Research & Development 2005 National Meeting held February 16-18, 2005, in Baltimore, Maryland. The meeting’s theme was “Improving Care for Veterans with Chronic Illnesses.”

Steve Counsell, MD, represented IU Geriatrics at the 2005 Leadership Retreat of the Association of Directors of Geriatrics Academic Programs (ADGAP) February 18-20, 2005, in Scottsdale, Arizona. In addition to a special meeting of the Hartford Centers of Excellence, ADGAP members discussed topics including successful clinical operations, strategic planning, negotiations, development and fund raising.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The March 2nd IU Geriatrics Conference features **Ann Hake, MD**. Her presentation, “Parkinson’s Disease Update,” will be held in Wishard T2008 A&B from 7:30-8:30am. Dr. Hake is assistant professor in the Department of Neurology, IU School of Medicine.

Chris Fox, Consultant Old Age Psychiatrist, will present "Dementia Care in the United Kingdom: the Benefit and Harms of a Universal Dementia Care System" at the March 9th IU Geriatrics Conference held from 7:30-8:30am in Wishard T2008 A&B. Dr. Fox is a Consultant Old Age Psychiatrist at the Folkestone Health Centre, Kent, England, in the United Kingdom.

Jeanne Dickens, MD, will present “Anxiety Disorders/Depression in Older Adults” at the March 16th IU Geriatrics Conference held in Wishard T2008 A&B from 7:30-8:30am. Dr. Dickens is associate professor in the Department of Psychiatry, IU School of Medicine.
