

IU GERIATRICS e-news August 2008

A newsletter from [IU Geriatrics](#) and the [IU Center for Aging Research](#)

IU Geriatrics Welcomes New Fellows

Drs. **Azita Chehresa**, **Heather Riggs**, and **Mohamed Homs**i, began their geriatric medicine fellowships in July. They're meeting with General Internal Medicine & Geriatrics faculty and staff, learning their way around the geriatrics clinical sites, and are working toward completing their fellowship goals.



Pictured left to right are Drs. Azita Chehresa, Heather Riggs, and Mohamed Homs.

Dr. Chehresa will complete a one year fellowship in clinical geriatrics. She is especially interested in depression and dementia in older adults and in learning about all aspects of their management. Dr. Chehresa completed a Family Medicine Residency at Indiana University and also has a PhD from McGill University, Montreal, Canada.

Dr. Homsi is a first year clinical geriatrics fellow. Upon completing the geriatrics fellowship, he will start a three year cardiology fellowship at Indiana University. Dr. Homs recently completed his Internal Medicine Residency at IU.

Dr. Riggs is in the first of a four year combined clinical geriatrics and hematology/oncology fellowship. She completed an Internal Medicine Residency at Wright State University/Wright Patterson Air Force Base, in Dayton, Ohio. Most recently she was affiliated with the Mike O'Callaghan Federal Hospital, in Las Vegas, Nevada where she was a staff internist and clinical instructor.

The new fellows join **Dr. Sergey Gorbachev** who is the first fellow in the Geriatric Medicine Fellowship Program who is training in both

geriatrics and gero-informatics. Dr. Gorbachev completed geriatric medicine training during the past academic year and is currently participating in the Regenstrief Institute Informatics Fellowship Program. His gero-informatics mentor is **Michael Weiner, MD, MPH**.

IU-CAR Presents Research at ICAD

IU Center for Aging Research center scientists and affiliated scientists contributed their research results to the nearly 5,400 participants who attended the 2008 [International Conference on Alzheimer Disease](#) (ICAD) held in the

Alzheimer's Association hometown of Chicago on July 26-31.

Hugh C. Hendrie, MB, ChB, DSc, presented the poster "12 year trajectories of cognitive decline in elderly African Americans." **Frederick Unverzagt, PhD**, was a co-author. Dr. Hendrie also presented "Dementia diagnosis in racial and ethnic minorities/cross cultural" in the symposium Diagnosis and Clinical Course and chaired an oral presentation session on

Epidemiology and Risk Factors.

Christopher M. Callahan, MD, presented "Beyond primary care: Improving the impact and reach of collaborative care models for Alzheimer's disease" in the symposium Enhancing Care of Persons with Dementia Through Coordination of Medical and Community Care.

Ann Marie Hake, MD, presented the poster "Indianapolis Discovery Network for Dementia - Where We Are After Two Years." Co-authors with ties to IU-CAR were **Stephanie Munger, BS**, **Martin R. Farlow, MD**, **Mary G. Austrom, PhD**, and **Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH**.

Yansheng Du, PhD, presented the poster "Identification and characterization of human autoantibodies that may be used for the treatment of prion diseases." **Martin Farlow, MD**, was a co-author.

A large contingent of additional IU scientists contributed to the meeting. Highlights of research findings are available [online](#). To keep up with the rapidly changing Alzheimer research field, ICAD has become an annual event and will meet in Vienna, Austria in 2009.

INDIANA GERIATRICS SOCIETY'S Second Annual Fall Conference



October 10, 2008
8:00am - 5:00pm

*"How Can We Improve the
Quality of Care for the Elderly?"*

Registration and Continental
Breakfast 7:30—8:00am
Reception and Networking
5:00 - 6:30pm

Season's Conference Center
560 St Rd 46 E
Nashville, IN 47448

Agenda and Registration
<http://iucar.iu.edu/igsfall2008.pdf>

Contact Kathy Frank for information
317-630-7007 or [email](#)

PUBLICATIONS

Schubert CC, Gross C, Hurria A. [Functional assessment of the older patient with cancer](#). *Oncology (Williston Park)*. 2008 Jul;22(8):916-22; discussion 925, 928. PMID: 18709902

Torke AM, Simmerling M, Siegler M, Kaya D, Alexander GC. [Rethinking the ethical framework for surrogate decision making: a qualitative study of physicians](#). *J Clin Ethics*. 2008 Summer;19(2):110-19. PMID: 18767471

Holmes HM, **Sachs GA**, Shega JW, Hougham GW, Cox Hayley D, Dale W. [Integrating Palliative Medicine into the Care of Persons with Advanced Dementia: Identifying Appropriate Medication Use](#). *J Am Geriatr Soc*. 2008 Jul 30;56(7):1306-11.

Levinthal BR, Morrow DG, **Tu W**, Wu J, Murray MD. [Cognition and Health Literacy in Patients with Hypertension](#). *J Gen Intern Med*. 2008 Aug;23(8):1172-6.

Zillich AJ, Shay K, Hyde B, Emmendorfer TR, Mellow AM, **Counsell SR**, Supiano MA, Woodbridge P, Reeves P. [Quality Improvement Toward Decreasing High-Risk Medications for Older Veteran Outpatients](#). *J Am Geriatr Soc*. 2008 Jul;56(7):1299-305. PMID: 18537846

Fleisher AS, Raman R, Siemers ER, Becerra L, Clark CM, Dean RA, **Farlow MR**, et al. [Phase 2 safety trial targeting amyloid beta production with a gamma-secretase inhibitor in Alzheimer disease](#). *Arch Neurol*. 2008 Aug;65(8):1031-8.



Drs. Cathy Schubert and Larry Cripe

PRESENTATIONS and PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Hugh Hendrie, MB, ChB, DSc, presented "The association of ApoE genotypes with AD and dementia in two populations of African origin," at the National Institute on Aging Workshop: The Role of ApoE in Brain Aging and Alzheimer's Disease held August 13-14, 2008, Bethesda, Maryland.

As a member of the Planning Committee, Dr. Hendrie also attended the [NIH State-of-the-Science Conference](#) on Prevention of Alzheimer's Disease, Mild Cognitive Impairment, and Age-related Cognitive Decline held August 19-21, 2008, in Bethesda.

Stephanie Munger, BS, presented "Translating Research into Practice: Implementing Primary Care Best Practice Guidelines in the Real World" at the Alzheimer's Association Dementia Care Conference in Garden Grove, California on August 25, 2008. The session described the role of the [Indianapolis Discovery Network for Dementia](#) members in creating the [Healthy Aging Brain Center](#) and the initial months of operation of the Center.



Stephanie Munger

Ella Bowman, MD, PhD, pictured lower right, presented Medicine Grand Rounds entitled, "ACE Units: A Unique Interdisciplinary Transitional Care Model for the Elderly" on August 26, 2008, at St. Vincent Hospital on 86th Street, in Indianapolis.



Dr. Ella Bowman

Steve Counsell, MD, presented Geriatric and Rehabilitation Unit Grand Rounds entitled "Geriatric Resources for Assessment and Care of Elders (GRACE): A New Model of Primary Care for Low-Income Seniors" at the Princess Alexandra Hospital, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia on July 31, 2008.

Dr. Counsell presented "Randomized Controlled Trials of Collaborative Care Interventions to Improve Primary Care and Outcomes in Vulnerable Older Adults" at the Geriatric Medicine Journal Club at the Princess Alexandra Hospital on August 26, 2008.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Daniel E. Rusyniak, MD, will present "Toxic Etiologies of Dementia" at the IU Geriatrics Conference on Wednesday, October 1, 2008, from 7:30-8:30am in Wishard's T2008 A&B. Dr. Rusyniak is an assistant professor of Emergency Medicine, Division of Medical Toxicology, and directs the Medical Toxicology Fellowship. He has joint appointments in the departments of Neurology and Pharmacology and Toxicology.