

IU GERIATRICS e-news July 2008

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

NAPH Honors GRACE with Chair Award

Senior Care at Wishard's GRACE Program has been awarded a 2008 National Association of Public Hospitals Chair Award, an honor recognizing exceptional work in addressing the needs of the underserved. Founded in 2002, GRACE, [Geriatrics Resources for Assessment and Care of Elders](#), was designed as a practical, innovative model of primary care where vulnerable seniors benefit from a comprehensive team approach to health care and coordination of care.

The Chair Award is one of the [NAPH's](#) Safety Net Awards which honor member hospitals and health systems that have designed and implemented creative and successful programs and activities to meet the needs of their communities.

The Chair Award is a "best of the best" recognition, selected as the top submission across all award categories which include Reducing Health Care Disparities, Patient Safety, Patient Centered Care and Community Engagement.

Dr. Steve Counsell, the GRACE medical director, accepted the award on behalf of the GRACE team on June 26, 2008 in Santa Fe, New Mexico, in a ceremony attended by Dr. Lisa Harris, CEO and medical director of Wishard Health Services. The Health and Hospital Corporation of Marion County and Wishard Health Services are members of the NAPH which represents more than 100 of America's most important safety net hospitals and health systems.



Chris Callahan, Tim Stump, Steve Counsell and Greg Arling pause while working on GRACE data to admire the Chair Award.

GENI Translates Research into Practice

Principal Investigator [Glenda Westmoreland, MD, MPH](#), and the Geriatrics Education Network of Indiana (GENI) Project are featured on IUPUI's TRIP web pages which describe how faculty are Translating Research into Practice. The



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site notes that translational research solves problems people face in their everyday lives by using meaningful, evidenced-based information to address complex social, health, governmental, cultural, and relational issues. Translational research intentionally targets a problem and constructs an answer based on evidence.

The TRIP initiative notes that GENI's success "lies in its commitment to building a statewide network of physicians who provide care for older adults. The network facilitates the quick sharing of information and resources that make a difference in people's lives. The project also has focused on both graduate and undergraduate medical education by providing future physicians with the knowledge and resources they need to address common conditions" that they are likely to encounter in their practice with older adults.

GENI was funded in 2003 by the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation.



AHRQ Adds GRACE To Web-based Resource

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality has recognized the [GRACE program](#) as an innovative approach to patient care delivery and has selected the program to appear in its Health Care Innovations Exchange. A Web-based resource, the Exchange is designed to support health care professionals in sharing and adopting innovations that improve the delivery of care to patients.

GRACE, Geriatrics Resources for Assessment and Care of Elders, appears in an Innovation Profile titled, [Team-Developed Care Plan and Ongoing Care Management by Social Workers and Nurse Practitioners Result in Better Outcomes and Fewer Emergency Department Visits for Low-Income Seniors](#), in the July 7, 2008 issue of the AHRQ Health Care Innovations Exchange Web.

To encourage the exchange of information, ideas and questions, the AHRQ invites you to view the innovations and provide comments or address questions to other innovators at <http://www.innovations.ahrq.gov/>.

SAVE the DATE

Indiana Geriatrics Society's Second Annual Fall Conference

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

October 10, 2008

8:00am - 5:00pm

Registration begins at 7:30am

Reception 5:00 - 6:30pm

The Season's Conference Center

560 St Rd 46 E

Nashville, IN 47448

Information from Kathy Frank
at 317-630-7007

Schmid Selected for VA Career Development Award

As an occupational therapist and rehabilitation scientist, IUCAR Affiliated Scientist [Dr. Arlene Schmid](#) wants to enhance the quality of life and life satisfaction for post-stroke individuals by helping them return to important activities and increasing social participation.



Dr. Schmid's 2008 VA Career Development Award, "Re-Establishing Participation after Stroke," spans four years and will help her identify the key factors considered barriers to regaining participation. This data will be used to develop a post-stroke rehabilitation intervention focused on participation to increase quality of life, life satisfaction, and provide cost-effective care.

The Career Award follows Dr. Schmid's [IU Roybal Center](#) pilot project, "The Exploration of the Development of Fear of Falling After Stroke." The objective was to survey post-stroke individuals to estimate the prevalence of fear of falling and to better understand the timing and consequences of the development of the fear of falling and its impact on activity limitations after stroke.

Dr. Schmid is pursuing a VA career with the long term goal of becoming an independent rehabilitation research scientist and a leader in developing stroke-related rehabilitation interventions and evidence-based practice guidelines.

She is an assistant professor in IUPUI's Department of Occupational Therapy and completed a post-doctoral fellowship at the VA in the fall of 2007.

- 22-39% of the acute stroke population fall before discharge from the hospital.
- Inpatient falls are a predictor of falls once discharged and are related to decreased participation in activities.
- Fear of falling is likely to be a main barrier to social participation.

PUBLICATIONS

Boustani M, Justiss MD. [Subtle neurological abnormalities and functional cognition in older adults](#). Arch Intern Med. 2008 Jun 23;168(12):1252-3.

Dale W, Hemmerich J, Hill EK, Hougham GW, **Sachs GA**. [What correlates with the intention to be tested for mild cognitive impairment \(MCI\) in healthy older adults?](#) Alzheimer Dis Assoc Disord. 2008 Apr-Jun;22(2):144-52.

Gao S, Jin Y, **Unverzagt FW**, Ma F, Hall KS, Murrell JR, Cheng Y, Shen J, Ying B, Ji R, Matesan J, Liang C, **Hendrie HC**. [Trace element levels and cognitive function in rural elderly chinese](#). J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci. 2008 Jun;63(6):635-41.

Farlow MR, Graham SM, Alva G. [Memantine for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease: tolerability and safety data from clinical trials](#). Drug Saf. 2008;31(7):577-85.

Dilworth-Anderson P, **Hendrie HC**, Manly JJ, Khachaturian AS, Fazio S. [Diagnosis and assessment of Alzheimer's disease in diverse populations](#). Alzheimers Dement. 2008 Jul;4(4):305-9.

PRESENTATIONS and PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH, Scholar Class of 2005 in the Paul B. Beeson Career Development Awards in Aging Research Program, attended the Annual Meeting of the [Beeson Scholars](#) held June 19-22, 2008, at Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico. The meeting is held for scholars, mentors and other leaders in academic medicine and aging research to review research progress of scholars, encourage dissemination of their findings, and enhance development of scholarship and leadership. **Chris Callahan, MD**, also attended the Beeson Annual Meeting as a Class of 1996 Beeson Scholar, a mentor to Dr. Boustani, and a member of the Beeson Program Committee.



Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH, was a featured guest on National Public Radio's Science Friday on June 27, 2008. The guests on the segment, '[New Research into Stroke and the Brain](#),' offered their professional insight into recently published medical studies. Science Friday is a weekly discussion of the latest news in science, technology, health, and the environment.

Youcef Sennour, MD, presented "Delirium in the elderly: Issues with recognition and management" at the Methodist Hospital Grand Rounds on July 17, 2008.

Steve Counsell, MD, was selected to attend the Australia National Forum on Best Practice in Community Care held July 17, 2008, by the Lincoln Centre for Research on Ageing in the [Australian Institute in Primary Care](#) on the campus of La Trobe University in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. The Australian government provided funds for an initiative to provide a [review and scoping study](#) of evidence-based best practice models for utilisation in community aged care, including packaged care services and carer respite services.

Douglas K. Miller, MD, presented "Preparing for Death" at the [Kellogg Fellows Leadership Alliance](#)'s 'The Third Age' Call To Action, July 19, 2008, in Chaska, Minnesota. The alliance encompasses 1,200 leaders worldwide from separate Kellogg Foundation leadership programs between 1980 and today. The Call to Action programs unite fellows around a specific issue, and in this event, it was The Third Age, or the years after retirement.

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