



Meet the New Faculty: Northwest



Karen Robbins, MD came to UWMC - Northwest after practicing Hospitalist Medicine for 3 years at Cedars-Sinai in Los Angeles, California. She is originally from Tulsa, Oklahoma, and she received her MD from the University of Oklahoma. She and her husband moved to Los Angeles for internship and residency. Her husband recently completed Musculoskeletal Radiology fellowship. They relocated to Seattle to be closer to family, including Karen's sister, Julie Reeds, who is also a Hospitalist at UWMC - Northwest. When outside of the hospital, Karen enjoys spending time with family, hiking, boating, and exploring her new home in the beautiful Pacific Northwest.



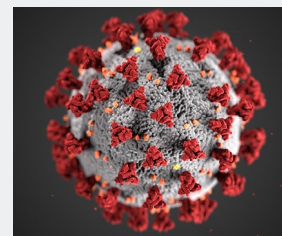
Zachary York, MD is originally from Snohomish, WA but moved east to attend medical school at the University of Pittsburgh in Pittsburgh, PA. After graduating, he completed Internal Medicine internship and residency at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, WI. There, he developed an interest in medical education, health equity, and cognitive bias in the clinical decision-making process, among others. Zachary is honored to be joining the hospitalist group at the UWMC-Northwest. Outside of the hospital, he enjoys hiking, cooking, baking, and spending time with friends and family.



Shirou Wu, MD was born in China and grew up in the vibrant state of New York. She went to Brown University for both undergraduate and medical school before completing residency at the University of Washington this summer. She is excited to work with a great team at UW-Northwest and hopes to continue developing her academic interests in clinical education and immigrant health advocacy. Shirou has been a huge foodie her whole life and loves exploring Seattle's diverse gustatory delights. She is also a puzzle game enthusiast, avid world traveler, and beginner aerialist.



Nima Karamooz, MD is originally from Portland, Oregon and moved here from San Francisco after completing residency at the California Pacific Medical Center. Prior to that, he has spent time working in the health tech space at Google and a Medicare Advantage startup. He attended Columbia University where he majored in Materials Science and Engineering and completed medical school at the University of Rochester in upstate New York. In the future, he hopes to get involved in research in the area of bioinformatics. In his spare time he has been exploring the Seattle area and playing tennis when the weather (and smoke) permit.



VA Emergency COVID Response in Spokane, WA with Laurel Roberts

DEMPS, or the Disaster Emergency Medical Personnel System, is a federal program to deploy Veterans Health Administration staff to disaster zones requiring federal assistance. This program has traditionally assisted areas suffering from natural disasters such as hurricanes and earthquakes. The recent COVID-19 pandemic presented an additional opportunity for the VA to fulfill its "Fourth Mission": extending care to civilians in times of national emergencies. Through the DEMPS program, VHA had the framework in place to provide needed surge clinical assistance to many COVID hot spots. DEMPS was activated in several locations across the US, usually in cities where VAs opened their doors to civilians, such as New York City and New Orleans. An outbreak that did not make the news occurred much closer to home, in Spokane, Washington.

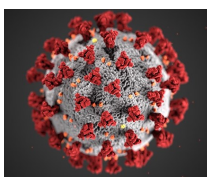
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Meet the New Faculty: Northwest Continued



Nandita Mani, MD moved from DC to Seattle for residency and hasn't looked back since. She completed residency at UW in 2017 and then joined the hospitalist team at Northwest Hospital for a year. She left to join the Infectious Diseases fellowship program at UW as a clinician educator fellow. Her fellowship work was primarily focused on antimicrobial stewardship and stamping out inappropriate carbapenem use, but then COVID hit and her efforts pivoted to infection prevention, employee health, and healthcare worker safety. She graduated from ID fellowship in June and re-joined faculty as a hospitalist at UW-NW (again), ID attending at Harborview, and as associate medical director of infection prevention at UW-NW. She got married in September with a grand total of 5 wedding guests, loves skiing and outdoor adventuring, and is getting a Bernedoodle puppy this winter.



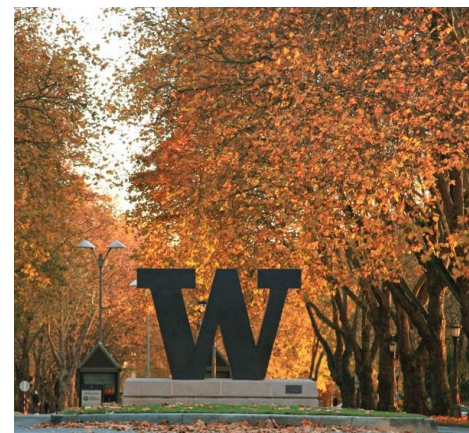
VA Emergency COVID Response in Spokane, WA *with Laurel Roberts, continued...*

A veterans' home near Spokane suffered a COVID-19 outbreak, and required the quick hospitalization of about 30 patients. In order to accommodate these patients, the Mann-Grandstaff VA in Spokane turned its Community Living Center (CLC) into a COVID ward in just 48 hours. The Spokane VA is much smaller than our VA here in Seattle, and they did not have the clinical staff to take on this patient surge, thus DEMPS was activated.

As a DEMPS volunteer, Laurel was deployed to work in the COVID unit in Spokane for 2 weeks in early May. Her experiences were a bit different than those of her colleagues deployed to bigger cities. The patient population was exclusively geriatric, and most patients had advanced dementia requiring close supervision. This created a unique problem in the era of COVID precautions. The Mann-Grandstaff VA solved this by blowing out the windows of the patient rooms in the former CLC, thereby creating two entirely negative pressure wards. Since the entire ward was negative-pressure, the patient rooms themselves could have open doors, and patients and staff could move fairly freely. This model worked well in this particular patient population prone to wandering and impulsivity. As this was a medical ward, not an ICU, the patients were lower acuity, however Laurel was still impressed with the outcomes; most patients were doing well when her deployment came to a close. The DEMPS program is one of the unique opportunities available to VA physicians, and Laurel tells us she is grateful it allowed her an avenue to translate her skills to a different clinical environment during the pandemic. She hope to deploy with DEMPS again in the future – "Hurricane season is upon us!"



Congratulations to Eric LaMotte and his wife Annie who welcomed their son, Evan Michael into the world in July.



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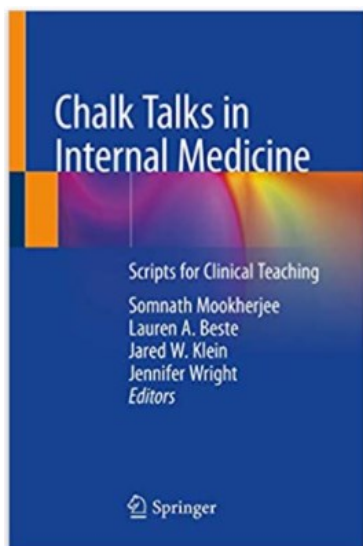
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Book Announcement!!!



Chalk Talks in Internal Medicine: Scripts for Clinical Teaching is now available! This book is a unique guide for teaching internal medicine in the clinical setting – enabling teaching attendings to immediately link clinical experiences with the skills of physicianship. Chalk talks not only enhance the learning of students and trainees but also enable fun, satisfying, and meaningful teaching. The book supports the efforts of anyone who teaches in the clinical setting – providing forty-nine illustrated teaching scripts for topics ranging from “management of acute coronary artery syndrome” to “approach to contraceptive counseling.”

Editors Somnath Mookherjee, Lauren Beste, Jared Klein, and Jennifer Wright recruited ninety-six faculty members from the DGIM to create these teaching scripts for commonly encountered inpatient and outpatient clinical scenarios. In addition to creating the teaching scripts, they encouraged co-authors to engage in peer mentorship around career development and satisfaction. Thus, faculty not only used their expertise and experience to create these teaching scripts, many developed partnerships supporting their career development.

The book is available from online book sellers including [Amazon](#), as well as directly from Springer (<https://www.springer.com/us/book/9783030348137>).

Recent Publications

[Creating a Framework to Integrate Residency Program and Medical Center Approaches to Quality Improvement and Patient Safety Training.](#) **Chen A, Wolpaw BJ, Vande Vusse LK, Wu C, Meo N, Staub MB, Hicks KG, Carr SA, Schleyer AM, Harrington RD, Klein JW.** Acad Med. 2020 Sep 8. doi: 10.1097/ACM.0000000000003725. PMID: 32909995.

[Focus on telehealth before and after hospitalization: Understanding variation in the use of telehealth will be critical during the pandemic and after.](#) **Sheridan Reiger, Ashok Reddy, and Joshua M. Liao.** ACP Hospitalist. September 2020.

[Going Beyond One Size Fits All in Surgical Bundled Payments.](#) **Liao JM, Wong SL, Chu D.** JAMA Surg. 2020 Sep 30. doi: 10.1001/jamasurg.2020.1948. PMID: 32997118.

[Multicenter validation of a machine-learning algorithm for 48-h all-cause mortality prediction.](#) Mohamadlou H, Panchavati S, Calvert J, ... **Fletcher G, Shieh L, Stark PB, Chettipally U, Shimabukuro D, Feldman M, Das R.** Health Informatics J. 2020 Sep;26(3):1912-1925. doi: 10.1177/1460458219894494. Epub 2019 Dec 30. PMID: 31884847.

[Post-Prescription Review with Threat of Infectious Disease Consultation and Sustained Reduction in Meropenem Use Over Four Years.](#) **Nandita S Mani, Kristine F Lan, Rupali Jain, Chloe Bryson-Cahn, John B Lynch, Elizabeth M Krantz, Andrew Bryan, Catherine Liu, Jeannie D Chan, Paul S Pottinger, H Nina Kim.** Clinical Infectious Diseases. August 31, 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1093/cid/ciaa1279>.

[Revise COVID-19 relief-fund decisions to target disparities.](#) **Joshua Liao** and Amol Navathe. The Seattle Times. September 7, 2020.

[Use of Chronic Care Management Among Primary Care Clinicians.](#) **Reddy A, Marcotte LM, Zhou L, Fihn SD, Liao JM.** Ann Fam Med. 2020 Sep;18(5):455-457. doi: 10.1370/afm.2573. PMID: 32928763.

[Virtual Peer Teaching During the COVID-19 Pandemic.](#) Jeong L, Smith Z, Longino A, **Merel SE, McDonough K.** Med Sci Educ. 2020 Sep 9:1-2. doi: 10.1007/s40670-020-01065-1. PMID: 32929390.

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