Upcoming Events

New 1st year Fellows start their fellowship Monday, July 3rd
Jill Deutsch (Rutgers Med School, NJ)
Lamia Haque (Yale)
Areil Jaffe (Columbia Presbyeterian, NY)
Karl Langberg (Yale)
Jeffrey Luk (Yale)
Dennis Shung (Yale)

New Fellows Welcome reception
Wednesday, July 5th 5:00 PM BAR Restaurant (back room)
254 Crown Street, New Haven

Fellowship Application season opens for 2018 entry
Saturday July 15th
Seminars & Conferences

**Multidisciplinary Pancreas Clinical Conference**
Tuesdays (weekly)
7:00-8:00AM Smilow Room 101B
(breakfast and coffee served)

**Research Seminar Series (will resume in September 2017)**
Tuesdays (weekly)
5:00- 6:00PM
TAC S247

**Pancreas Cancer Research Conference (will resume in September 2017)**
Tuesdays (Bi-weekly 1st & 3rd)
5:30-6:15PM Smilow Room 101B

**Liver Tumor Board**
Thursdays (weekly)
1:00-2:00PM (lunch provided) Smilow Tumor Board Room
NP4-215 B

**Cancer & Genetics Prevention Program (will resume in August 2017)**
Thursdays (weekly)
2:30-3:30PM
330 Orchard Street, Suites 107-109 (same locations weekly)

**GI Core Curriculum Lecture Series (Resumes in September 2017)**
Fridays (weekly)
1:00-2:00 PM
TAC S247

**Case Conference (Resumes in September 2017)**
Fridays (weekly)
2:00-3:00PM
Fitkin Amphitheatre
Friday Digestive Diseases Summer Seminar Series

Friday July 7, 2017
1:00 -2PM "Acute Liver Failure"
Tamar Taddei, MD
TAC S-247

Friday July 14, 2017
1:00-2PM"Cirrhosis Complications I -Variceal Hemorrhage and Ascites"
2:00 -3PM "Cirrhosis ComplicationsII-SBP, Hepatorenal Syndrome Encephalopathy"
Guadalupe Garcia-Tsao, MD
TAC S241

Friday July 21, 2017
1:00-2PM "Non-Variceal Upper GI Bleeding"
2:00-3PM "Lower GI Bleeding"
Loren Laine, MD
TAC S-247

Friday July 28, 2017
1:00 -2PM "Variceal Upper GI Bleeding"
2:00 -3PM"Ogilvie's Syndrome"
Loren Laine, MD
TAC S-247
Dr. Guadalupe Garcia-Tsao was invited to the 13th National Congress of the Mexican Association of Hepatology (AMH) where she gave lectures in the postgraduate course and a state-of-the-art lecture. Dr. Garcia-Tsao also participated in a Young Investigator Workshop co-organized by the AASLD and AMH in which residents and fellows were taught about research methodology in Hepatology. At lunchtime during the workshop she spoke about her career to young Mexican physicians interested in Hepatology, as she once was.

Nicolette Rodriguez, MD who is a medical resident at YNHH, won the "Young Investigator" award at DDW for her oral presentation on the Racial and Ethnic differences in Colorectal Cancer Screening. In addition to winning the Young Investigator award, her research was featured in the below article.


Dr. Martin Floch is working on the 3rd edition of Netters Gastroenterology.
**Fellows Graduation June 20, 2017**

Once again everyone had a great time at the Fellows Graduation at Anthony’s Ocean view in New Haven, CT. Approximately 173 people attended. Here are some pictures from the night. Thank you Karen Lawhorn for planning this wonderful event!
Fellows Graduation June 20, 2017

From Left to Right: Dr. Thiru Muniraj, Dr. Basile Njei, Jonathan Pourmorady, Dr. Rob Frankel, Dr. Vanrum Kumar, Dr. Uyen (Kim) To, Dr. Jason Puckett, Dr. Theresa Lee, Parastoo Jangouk, Heather Klavan, Aung Kaung, Earl Cambell III

Now that they have graduated, time to get silly!

Dr. Rob Frankel, Dr. Uyen To, Dr. Vanrum Kumar, Dr. Jason Puckett, Dr. Theresa Lee, Dr. Basile Njei
Here is where our graduating fellows will be going
(Faculty mentor in parentheses)

Robert Frankel, M.D.  
(Main Line Gastroenterology Associates  
(Portland, PA)

(Phiirth St. Joseph Brand)

Varun Kumar, M.D.  
(Caremount Medical PC  
(Poughkeepsie, NY)

(Phillip St. Paul Feuerstadt)

Theresa Lee, M.D.  
(South Denver Gastroenterology  
(Lone Tree, CO)

(Dr. Simona Jakab)

Basile Njei, M.D., MPH  
(Gran River Gastroenterology/Grand River Endoscopy  
(Grand Rapids, MI)

(Dr. Joseph Lim & Dr. Tamar Taddei)

Jason Puckett, M.D.  
(Advanced Liver Transplant Fellow,  
(Yale School of Medicine)

(Dr. Mayra Sanchez)

Uyen To, M.D.  
(Thiru Muniraj, M.D.  
(Yale School of Medicine)

(Dr. Guadalupe Garcia-Tsao & Dr. James Boyer)

(Phillip St. Harry Aslanian & Dr. Priya Jamidar )

Assistant Professor Adjunct of Medicine  
(Digestive Diseases) Yale School of Medicine

Assistant Professor of Medicine,  
Yale School of Medicine
Faculty members Yale School of Medicine Section of Digestive Diseases

Faculty Women in GI at Yale School of Medicine Section of Digestive Diseases
More photos from the Fellows Graduation

Temple Endoscopy Nurses

Smilow Endoscopy Nurses

Dr. Thiru Muniraj, his family & the Smilow Endoscopy nurses
**The VA Corner**

*Dr. Guadalupe Garcia-Tsao  
Chief of Digestive Disease VA-CT,  
Professor of Medicine Digestive Diseases YSM*

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**FibroSCAN Clinic at the VA**

In West Haven VA Liver Resource Center we are very fortunate to have had our own Fibroscan machine since 2014 (pictured above with Alwin Bernardo, Liver Clinic Care Coordinator Transplant /Scan-Echo Coordinator VA Connecticut Healthcare System). FibroScan is an FDA approved non-invasive diagnostic device for the assessment of shear wave speed & equivalent liver stiffness (LS) in patients with chronic liver disease. The principle behind this technology is Vibration Controlled Transient Elastography that was founded in Paris, France in 2001, and introduced in the market in 2003. There are more than 2,000+ machines in service globally and in the VA Healthcare System, we only have a handful of VA Facilities (50 +) who also have this equipment and takes advantage of using it with point of contact while patient is in Liver Clinic. The FibroScan technology helps us “piece the puzzle” together in diagnosing patients with significant FIBROSIS or even the presence of Liver Cirrhosis. We have Alwin Dale Bernardo RN, BSN who is also the Liver Transplant Coordinator for VACT, who now also does almost all of our Fibroscans in the VA. All results are forwarded to Dr. Guadalupe Garcia-Tsao for interpretations and recommendations. As of today, we have used this machine close to 1200+ Veterans, and an average of around 460+ patients a year. In the future, we are hoping to acquire a Portable Unit that we can transport to our Community Based Outpatient satellite clinics (CBOC’s) and also acquiring the CAP Software (Controlled Attenuation Parameter) that will help us detect Hepatic Steatosis in our NAFLD/NASH population.
Mario Strazzabosco: Generation of CFTR-defective biliary cells from human induced pluripotent-stem cells (iPSC) to study the role of innate immunity in cystic fibrosis liver disease.

Sponsor: Connecticut Regenerative Medicine Research Fund

Announcements

Nana Bernasko (featured in the center above) will be leaving Digestive Diseases. Her last day is June 30, 2017. We wish her luck in her future position at the IBD Center at Penn State.

Congratulations to Dr. Thiruvengadam Muniraj. He will join our faculty on July 1 as an Assistant Professor.

Congratulations to Dr. James Boyer. He has joined the twitter world. We hope to have the twitter account for Digestive Diseases up and running in the next few weeks! If you are interested in joining twitter, please contact Dana Lombardi (dana.lombradi@yale.edu) for help setting up your account.
New publications from members of our faculty in the Section of Digestive Diseases

January 1, 2017 – June 1, 2017


Interventional EUS (with videos).


Combination Therapy of All-Trans Retinoic Acid With Ursodeoxycholic Acid in Patients With Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis: A Human Pilot Study. Assis DN, Abdelghany O, Cai SY,


CFTR-associated ligand is a negative regulator of Mrp2 expression.


Please send anything you would like featured in our monthly newsletter to: Dana Lombardi
dana.lombardi@yale.edu