FROM THE CHAIR

To the DFM Faculty, Fellows, Residents and Staff,

This past week an initiative important to Family Medicine and to the health of the American people was kicked off in Washington at the AAFP Assembly. The program called the Family Medicine for America's Health -- is a new, 5-year program designed to demonstrate the value of primary care in delivering on the Triple Aim of better health, better care and lower costs.

Family Medicine for America’s Health will work to modernize and transform the nation's health care system. The strategic effort will focus on expanding access to the patient-centered medical home, ensuring a strong primary care workforce and shifting from fee-for-service to comprehensive primary care payment.

Family Medicine for America’s Health is establishing six tactic teams with broad representation from the primary care community that will focus on key areas for transformation: Payment, Practice Management, Workforce, Education, Technology and Engagement.

I encourage you to look at a video Don Berwick founder of the IHI and TR Reed's from NPR’s Morning Edition who wrote the “Healing of America” comments at the beginning of the press conference announcing the program. Click here

There will be additional information posted soon on the FM for America’s Health website and new information is to be released at the FM town hall meeting at the upcoming AAMC meeting.

Nowhere is there a better story than our FM experience at BMC. We have discussed with leaders of the campaign to focus an episode of the campaign on our amazing story -- so stay tuned.

I also recommend everyone read the Annals of FM article published October 23rd that outlines the process and plan for Family Medicine for America’s Health. Click here

Brian Jack
Professor and Chair
Department of Family Medicine
Boston University School of Medicine
Welcome

Oscar Cornelio-Flores – Oscar received his medical degree from Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos - School of Medicine, Lima, Peru and completed his residency at Fairview Hospital/Cleveland Clinic Family Medicine Program. He has over five years of experience in the community health center setting. Oscar has been accepted to our Family Medicine Academic Fellowship program. Welcome Oscar!

Kathleen Chung – Katie is a graduate of Texas Tech University Health Science Center, Lubbock, TX. She completed her residency at the Oregon Health and Sciences University Family Medicine Residency, Portland, OR. Katie has a passion for inpatient and outpatient medicine as well as global medicine. Katie will be joining our Family Medicine team at the South Boston Community Health Center. Welcome!

Kelly Kruczek – Kelly is a graduate of Simmons College where she received her MSN. Kelly is located at the Charles Rive Practices, and has been here for a few years. She now joins the Family Medicine team and works alongside Dr. Amola Shertukde.

Rebecca Julian – Rebecca received her medical degree from the University of Michigan Medical School and is a BU Family Resident alumni, class of 2014! Rebecca will be joining Dr. Manasseh and our Inpatient team as a hospitalist. She will also be working to improve the curriculum on Inpatient Medicine. We are glad to have you back Rebecca!

Upcoming Dates

Nov 2  Daylight Saving Ends
Nov 3  Residency Interviews Begin
Nov 11  Veterans Day
Nov 27  Thanksgiving

“We thought it was an accidental death, Agent Gobbler, until this mysterious thermometer popped out!”
WELCOME continued

Rebecca Sussman—Rebecca has been the Billing Manager of OB/GYN for the past 5 years where she, together with the OB/GYN team, have improved billing efficiencies and increased revenue to a level that the OB/GYN department routinely shows up in metrics as a top performing department. Because Rebecca is familiar with implementation of new systems and other revenue enhancing projects, she has helped maintain OB/GYN revenue during our various transitions. Prior to coming to BMC, Rebecca managed the billing for Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts and worked at Partners Healthcare equally on the hospital and professional side of the business. Rebecca has also worked with, in some capacity or another, 3 of the 4 billing vendors that are currently affiliated with BMC. Rebecca has built a strong network of affiliations in healthcare, is a member and holds certification from the Academy of Professional Coders. Rebecca now joins DFM as a Billing Manager in addition to her current role in OB/GYN. Congratulations and welcome Rebecca!

Irmine Pierre—Irmine has been with BMC for a few years now and now joins the DFM as our Medical Biller. Irmine is ICD 10 Certified and comes to us with extensive experience in medical billing and coding. Irmine will be working closely with Elta and our finance team on the research side. Welcome Irmine!

New babies!!!

Congratulations to Keri and Patrick Sewell on their new baby Oscar Beck Sewell, born on September 2nd, 2014 at 1:17AM. Oscar was 8lbs 7oz and 19inches long!

Congratulations to Nicole Steinmuller who gave birth to a girl, Violet Marie Shappell! Violet was born on October 2, 2014 at 4:36am weighing in at 7lbs 12oz and 19inches long!
Congratulations to **Christy Odell** for being accepted into the Institute Healthcare Improvement’s “Improvement Advisor Professional Development Program”. This program provides improvement knowledge and skills so vital to our departments strategic objectives.

Congratulations to **John Burress**, faculty in the DFM and Director of OEM, who has been invited to be one of three presenters for a two-day seminar on OEM to the United Nations, December 1-2 on behalf on the ACOEM (national/international occupational medicine).

Congratulations to **Brian Jack**, **Suzanne Mitchell** and **Jessica Martin** for the funding of a new $14.9 million dollar grant entitled, “project ACHIEVE (Achieving Patient-Centered Care and Optimized Health In Care Transitions by Evaluating the Value of Evidence)” Dr. Jack co-PI and our BMC team is responsible for analyzing the readmission reduction experiences of hospitals across the country. An impressive national team of transitional care experts is coordinated by Mark Williams, MD from the University of Kentucky.

Congratulations to **Chris Manasseh** who was featured in *informa* with an exclusive interview. Click here for full interview.

Congratulations to **Paula Gardiner** who was featured in *Boston Magazine*! Click here for full interview details.

Congratulations to **Lance Laird** who has been invited to present at the Muslin Health Initiative! Click here for more information.
Congratulations to the **Gabby Team** for winning third prize in the poster session for the Fourth Annual BU CTSI Translational Science Symposium. The Symposium theme was “Research and Technologies to Reduce Disparities in Cancer Care and Other Health Care Delivery”. The poster is titled “Using Innovative Communication Technology for the Health of Young African American Women: An RCT”. The photo shows some members of the happy team!

![Happy Team](image)

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Congratulations to **Dr. Rob Saper** for being appointed to Co-Editor-in-Chief of Global Advances in Health Medicine. See press release [here](#), for more info!

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**Boston University** Department of Family Medicine

**Global Health Collaborative**

Global Health Update—**Jeff Markuns** and **Laura Goldman** attended the AAFP Family Medicine Global Health Workshop in San Diego, September 11, 2014, where they conducted break-out sessions entitled, “Approaches to the Development of Primary Care in Southeast Asia: The Cases of Cambodia, Myanmar, Laos and Vietnam.”

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Congratulations to **Elizabeth Limakatso Nkabane—Nkholongo** for the completion of her MPH Dissertation for her Master of Public Health degree from the University of Limpopo, South Africa. Her thesis entitled, “Factors Influencing Non-Compliance to Hypertension Treatment Among Hypertension Patients, At Leribe District, Lesotho”. Elizabeth is the country director for the Lesotho-Boston Health Alliance.
This month's Reflective Moments in Medicine submission comes from Erica Mintzer, a former resident and current family medicine attending at Codman Square Health Center. She presented her experience with diabetic group visits, which she does through a Kraft Fellowship. Erica discussed the power of the group on health care measures, on quality of life for our patients, and on provider experience. We wish Erica continued success with her group.

At Codman Square Health Center, we are embracing a new approach that aims to empower patients to take full control of their diabetes. Group Medical Visits. Instead of a rushed, 15 minute appointment, patients spend 2 hours with their provider, in a group with other patients with diabetes.

Since it counts as a medical visit, patients receive all of their diabetes care in the group. It’s not just a class, and not just a support group. During the group, patients have access to a provider as well as other important medical team members such as the dentist, nutritionist, behavioral health clinician, community health worker and podiatrist.

We start and end on time. No waiting. In two hours, patients have enough time to learn about the root causes of diabetes. They are empowered with tools to set realistic goals and take control of their diabetes. They learn about resources in their communities that will help them make healthy choices outside of the health center.

Most importantly, patients draw upon their peers for learning and support. Because how can a doctor really understand what it is like to prepare a healthy meal on a small budget with no time? Patients share strategies with each other.

Group Medical Visits have been studied to be an effective tool to combat the many aspects of diabetes. A systematic review of the literature showed that shared medical visits can improve intermediate outcomes of diabetes, such as hemoglobin A1C, cholesterol and blood pressure. Studies have also shown increases in health-related quality of life for patients, and decreases in hospitalizations.

We’re evaluating our own diabetes group visit program at Codman Square Health Center. Our study will include measures of patient satisfaction, patient empowerment and utilization of community resources. I’m happy to return at a later date to share with you the outcomes of this study, or perhaps we could hear from my colleagues about their group visits for other conditions, such as prenatal care, newborn care, childhood and adult obesity, and chronic pain and depression.

After facilitating two diabetes groups so far, I am humbled by the wisdom of my patients. After all, they are experts in their condition. It’s liberating for me to give my patients the tools to take control of their diabetes, instead of feeling like I have to tell them what to do. Together, we are building resources in our community to combat diabetes – social cohesion, knowledge, and access to healthy food and physical activity. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to participate in your care.
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE AUTHORS OF THE FOLLOWING PUBLICATIONS, ACCEPTED POSTERS AND PRESENTATIONS


Congratulations to the ACC Team for their accepted posters to the AAFP conference in Washington, D.C., October 21-25.

Population Outreach Empowering Medical Assistants
Collaborative Roadmap to Integrated Behavioral Health in a Family Medicine Setting
Efficacy of Co-Located Pharm D on Diabetic Outcomes in an Urban Family Medicine Clinic

Check out this Quality Poster for the Integrated Behavioral Health Program in Primary Care contributed by some of our very own—Alysa Veldis, NP; Michelle Prive, LICSW; Christy Odell, MD; Charles Williams, MD. *Click here*

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RESIDENCY

Residency Interviews begin this month!

If you see applicants being toured around the hospital or the health centers, please be sure to say hello! If you are in the Department on an interview day, feel free to stop by in the large conference room to say hello and introduce yourself. **The applicants want to meet as many faculty as possible while here for their interview day and with such an amazing and diverse group of faculty we certainly want to make that happen as much as possible!**

A weekly e-mail will be sent out from the Residency with a lot of information, such as:

- The interview days for that week (generally Thursdays and Fridays, but there are a few Mondays—see interview dates below)
- The applicants names and medical schools who will be interviewing on each day
- The faculty and residents who will be interviewing each day
- The Health Center that the applicants will be touring each day, along with the preceptors and residents that will be in clinic

If you are a preceptor—please make sure to scan these e-mails and see if you are precepting on a day that applicants will be visiting. If you are, please be on the look-out for the tours and if possible, be available to talk to the applicants about your role in the Department and some brief information about where you trained and your path for how you ended up working with our Department.

If you are not receiving these e-mails and you would like to, please let Katie know! (kathryn.whitley@bmc.org)

Thank you everyone for your efforts as it’s imperative that we have everyone’s help to have this be another successful interview season and continue bringing in the top residents for our program!

**Interview Dates:**
November: 3rd, 6th, 7th, 13th, 20th, 21st, & 24th
December: 1st, 4th, 5th, 11th, 12th, 18th, 19th, & 22nd
January: 2nd, 8th, 9th, & 16th
Tom Hines, M.D. recently returned from a week in Washington D.C., where he combined participation as a Massachusetts Alternate Delegate in the 2014 American Academy of Family Physicians Congress of Delegates with attendance at the annual Family Medicine Education Consortium Northeast Region meeting. Tom files the following report:

“The AAFP had a busy Congress this year, passing resolutions addressing many of the issues facing health care in general and Family Medicine in particular. Notable resolutions included the following:

**ADVOCACY**

--support for women’s access to reproductive health services and opposing non-evidence-based restrictions on medical care.
--advocacy for research by HHS into possible risks associated with e-cigarettes.
--advocacy for gun safety regulations.
--advocacy for allowance of e-prescribing of controlled substances.
--support for CMS coverage of Zoster Vaccine and TdaP under Medicare Part B.
--support for nursing pumping rooms with minimum standards at commercial transportation hubs.
--support for elimination of mandatory waiting periods for sterilization procedures for Medicaid patients.
--advocacy for inclusion of all contraceptive services, including vasectomy, in preventive services provided under the ACA.

**HEALTH OF THE PUBLIC/SCIENCE**

--support ending sale of tobacco products in all pharmacies and stores with pharmacy departments.
--support development of centralized registries for end of life care.
--support policies to reduce health disparities borne by immigrants, refugees, or asylees.

**PRACTICE ENHANCEMENT**

--support for payment for consultation by a hospitalized patient’s family physician.
--support for a requirement that all health plans cover insulin pens at the same level as vial and syringe insulin.
--support for standardization of prior approval processes.

In addition, the Congress saw the installation of Robert L. Wergin, M.D., FAAFP from Milford, NE as AAFP President and the election of Wanda Filer, M.D., M.B.A., FAAFP from York, PA as President Elect. Finally, the Congress and the subsequent Annual Scientific Assembly saw the kick-off of “Family medicine for America’s Health.” the new initiative of AAFP and other Family Medicine organizations and its new communication campaign, “Health is Primary” (healthisprimary.org).

Moving across the Potomac midweek to Crystal City, VA, I was joined by the residency’s two chief residents, Lindsay Corse, M.D. and Michelle Johnson, M.D. at the Northeast Regional Meeting of the Family Medicine Education Consortium. As usual, the meeting was a great success, with over 390 total attendees, including over 260 medical students and 67 residencies represented at the residency fair. In addition to working at the residency fair, I presented a seminar, “Five Decades of Family Medicine: a Social History,” and had the opportunity to support our own faculty member, Ramon Cancino, M.D., as he received an Emerging Leaders award from FMEC. All in all a great week!”
You are Cordially Invited — ABFM/SAM Party! [CME Eligible]

Hello DFM faculty:

As a thank you for all that you do for our students, we would like to offer you the opportunity to collaborate with your colleagues to complete two Self-Assessment Modules (SAMs) for your ABFM Maintenance of Certification (MOC).

This can be a highly efficient way to complete your recertification requirements, interact with colleagues, and learn new information!

We are collaborating with our colleagues at Tufts University School of Medicine to offer this session to our Family Medicine faculty.

It will take place on Sunday, November 16 from 8:30 am - 1pm (breakfast 8:30 - 9) at Tufts. Breakfast and snacks will be provided as well as parking.

We will briefly review the Maintenance of Certification (MOC) process and requirements, then will complete two exams together: Mental Health and Preventive Care. You are welcome to stay after to work on the required corresponding clinical simulations. You receive CME from the AAFP for completing these modules.

PLEASE REPLY TO: Florence Laforest at flafores@bu.edu if you are interested in attending as there is limited space. We will email you with further instructions as we get closer to the time.

If you are wondering about the ethics of collaborating on the exam, the ABFM encourages groups to work together on the exam because it promotes learning.

If you are worried about doing two exams at once, please note that you can now complete 2 SAMs anytime within your 3-year MOC cycle. You can also write notes on a written exam copy that we will provide you, and enter the data next year if you are starting a new MOC cycle in 2015.

Thanks again for all your great teaching; we hope you can all attend this wonderful event.

Thanks again for all your FANTASTIC work with our students,

Miriam, Molly and Florence

You are invited to register for the: BUSM+ Medical Education Badge Program [CME Eligible]

An online, asynchronous program conveniently offered 24/7 during a 12-week schedule to provide you with the opportunity to learn the fundamentals about teaching and learning that you may have missed in your professional career or now want to review to enhance your teaching. Take a session or sign up for a competency badge and join the BUSM+ teaching and learning community. CME is available.

Do you have your badge? A digital badge is an electronic symbol embedded with your accomplishments in completing a project, mastering a skill, or documenting an experience in Blackboard that is distributed through Mozilla Open Badge to your CV, social networking sites, ePortfolio, or signature line.

For more information and to register, please go to http://www.bu.edu/busmplus . The Teaching and Learning course begins January 5, 2015 and registration is September 15-December 15, 2014.

This is a virtual faculty development program in teaching and learning sponsored by Boston University School of Medicine and is open globally to all health care providers who teach.
DFM Faculty-

Are you looking to be a superhero to a first year medical student!

As in past years we are hoping to have as many first year students as possible matched with family doctors for their Introduction to Clinical Medicine (ICM) 1b clinical placement. ICM1 includes a clinical shadowing component where students are placed with a mentor for 10 clinical sessions. They observe, learn about patient interactions, do vital signs, begin to take histories, parts of the PE, etc. The course is run by Dr. Nan Harvey, out of the BUSM Office of Medical Education.

Would you like to mentor a first year student? It is an incredibly fun thing to do, as this is the students’ first “real” experience seeing patients. It does NOT take a lot of work, and they will think of you as a rock start (not kidding).

This is a critical pierce of recruiting students to Family Medicine. It is clear that early exposure and mentorship is key. The students have loved working with family medicine faculty over the years, and we would love to match up as many as possible with our faculty. Some students may be part of FaMeS (our 4 year FM student track).

There are Thursday afternoons that the students have scheduled for ICM1, but that time can be flexible (Thursday and Friday afternoons are best. Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons can work. Evenings are fine as well). They can work with you in clinic, on the inpatient service, nursing home, etc. There is more info from Nan pasted below.

Some of you are already signed up – If you are interested or if you are not sure you are signed up, please email me to let me know that you are interested. You will get MSE teaching time for this in your comp plan.

DFM Conferences

Family Medicine Grand Rounds
Please see below for specific location
12:00—1:00PM

November 4—One Key Question—Deborah Allen
Location FGH

November 11—Business Innovation Factory-Patient Experience Lab—Leigh Cappello
Location FGH

November 18—Early Childhood Wheezing-What it means and why it matters—Robyn Cohen
Location FGH

November 25—No Grand Rounds—Happy Thanks Giving!

*The Department of Family Medicine is accredited by the American Academy of Family Physicians Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide CME for physicians. The Department of Family Medicine designates this educational activity for a maximum of 1 CME credit through the AAFP

*Lunch Provided for attendees , all are welcome!

Inpatient Noon Conference
12:00—1PM
E. Newton Pavilion, 2nd floor conference room
(To the right—just before entering cafeteria)

November 6,— Resident Applicant Lunch
November 13,— Resident Applicant Lunch
November 20,— Resident Applicant Lunch
November 27,— Thanksgiving—No Conference

*This conference is limited to DFM members only
*Lunch provided for attendees

Research in Progress (RIP)
The research group meets every Tuesday from 3:30-5PM in Dowling 5409 Large Conference Room, to discuss work in progress, learn from each other and support each other. For any questions, please contact Nechama Greenwood at Nechama@bu.edu

November 4—
November 11—
November 18—
November 25—
*All are welcome
Inpatient Documentation Tips
The Documentation Team at BMC

Documenting Functional Status

Many of our patients have varying degrees of weakness or paralysis resulting from injury, strokes, disease. How can we capture their severity of illness and the increased resources sometimes needed to care for these patients? Below are some suggestions:

**THESE TERMS CAPTURE SEVERITY OF ILLNESS:**

- HEMIPLEGIA/PARESIS
- PARAPLEGIA/PARESIS
- QUADRPLEGIA/PARESIS
- FUNCTIONAL QUADRPLEGIA (near complete immobility d/t frailty, disease)

**THESE TERMS DO NOT CAPTURE SEVERITY OF ILLNESS:**

- LEFT/RIGHT SIDED WEAKNESS
- WHEELCHAIRBOUND/BEDBOUND
- NONAMBULATORY
- PARAPLEGIC (IF A PATIENT WITH QUADRPLEGIA/QUADRAPRESIS)

*Thank you! Specific documentation accurately reflects the excellent care our patients receive at BMC.*
Montegut Scholarship 2015

Announcing the WONCA Alain Montegut 2014 Global Health Scholarship

Alain Montegut was a member of the BU DFM who was so instrumental in our work in Southeast Asia.

Please click here for more details.

Boston University
Department of Family Medicine
Faculty in Geriatric Care

The Boston University Department of Family Medicine is seeking faculty interested in Geriatric Care. The Department provides care in several nursing homes, and teaching for FM residents and medical students. There are opportunities to provide primary care and to participate in research. Leadership positions are available. The geriatric program is highly integrated with our Boston Medical Center FM practice and local Community Health Center teaching practices. Live in beautiful Boston and become part of an exciting team on the forefront of health reform.

Send CV to:
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Boston, MA 02118

Email (preferred): ted.constan@bmc.org
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