

IU GERIATRICS e-news October- November 2008

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

Dr. Beck Honored with 2008 Hulman Health Award

Robin A. Beck, MD, received a Tony and Mary Hulman Health Achievement Award in Geriatrics and Gerontology at the Indiana Public Health Foundation's annual awards banquet held on October 2, 2008 at the Westin Hotel in Indianapolis. The award was presented to Dr. Beck by Dr. David Crabb, chair of the Department of Medicine, IU School of Medicine.

The Hulman Health Achievement Award is Indiana's "Premier" health award in recognition of Indiana's citizens and organizations whose efforts have resulted in a significant improvement to the human race. The purpose of the award is to create a positive image of health and to increase awareness of the contributions of health leaders.



Only a very limited number of physicians do home visits, and no one in my experience does them with the passion, love of service, vision, organizational leadership, and joy of communicating all of these to trainees as Dr. Robin A. Beck.

Dr. David Crabb

Starting in 1999, when Dr. Beck first joined IU Geriatrics, she conceptualized and implemented House Calls for Seniors, an integrated interdisciplinary team approach to providing care to homebound, frail, low-income seniors, who previously had little or no access to health care services due to physical and/or psychiatric disabilities. As designed and promoted by Dr. Beck, House Calls is a collaborative effort among IU Geriatrics, Wishard Health Services and IU Medical Group-Primary Care that was developed in partnership with Visiting Nurse Service of Indianapolis and Central Indiana Council on Aging (CICOA) and assisted via additional support from philanthropic donations.

Dr. Weiner Lauds Award-Winning Medical Informatics Fellow

Research project mentors are gratified when mentees' work is recognized, especially at the national level. IU-CAR and Regenstrief Institute investigator **Michael Weiner, MD, MPH**, is "thrilled to report" that Martin Were, MD, MS, won first place in the student competition at the 2008 national symposium of the American Medical Informatics Association for his work and paper on the *EMBRACE study.



Drs. Michael Weiner and Martin Were

Dr. Were is now a [Regenstrief Institute](#) Medical Informatics investigator whose interest in clinical messaging led him to collaborate with Dr. Weiner and to select EMBRACE as his fellowship project.

From the nine outstanding student finalists, Dr. Were's work was especially cited as refreshing, innovative, and relevant to clinical practice. His paper was selected as one of only a handful from the meeting that will be published in AMIA's journal.

Dr. Weiner, the principal investigator of the EMBRACE study, added, "One of our important local strengths is our ability to conduct development in a clinical laboratory, change a system that is used in real practice, and then measure the outcomes. Few places can do this. As systems grow, this also becomes even more difficult, and fewer institutions seem to be able to maintain this ability, even among those in good positions to attempt it. We need to continue to support our ability to change and study the system."

Dr. David Crabb, chair of the IU Department of Medicine, included these remarks in his nomination of Dr. Beck for a 2008 Hulman Health Award.

"Patient and family/caregiver satisfaction [for House Calls] has been consistently among the highest in the IU Medical Group practice. The quality of medical care has been outstanding, with demonstrated improvements in diagnosis and treatment of common geriatric conditions (e.g., falls and depression), improved continuity and coordination of care, and impressive reduction in ED visits and nursing home placements."

Additional evidence of the added value of service provided by House Calls are the increasing number of referrals to the program from local physicians, home care agencies, Adult Protective Services, the Alzheimer's Association, and other community service organizations."

Were MC, **Abernathy G, Hui SL, Kempf C, Weiner M.** [Using computerized provider order entry and clinical decision support to improve primary-care physicians implementation of consultants medical recommendations.](#) J Am Med Inform Assoc 2009 (Mar/Apr). Available online: <<http://www.jamia.org/cgi/reprint/M2932v1.pdf>>.

*EMBRACE: Eliminating Multiple Barriers to Recommendations Arising from Consultations about Elders

AMIA's 4,000 members advance the use of health information and communications technology in clinical care and clinical research, personal health management, public health/population, and translational science with the ultimate objective of improving health.

Wishard's Senior Care Programs Celebrate Anniversaries

Time flies for the dedicated health professionals and staff who provide care to help older adults and their families attain and maintain health and independence.

Three programs that are a part of Senior Care at Wishard recently celebrated 10-year anniversaries.

The programs and their medical directors are the IU Center for Senior Health led by **Cathy Schubert, MD**, the Acute Care for Elders (ACE) Service led by **Ella Bowman, MD, PhD**, and the Extended Care Service led by **Arif Nazir, MD**. Senior Care at Wishard is directed by **Robin Beck, MD**.

Congratulations and thank you to Wishard and to all the personnel who make these services and programs successful!

IU Roybal Center Awards Pilot Funding

The IU Center for Aging Research is home to a National Institute on Aging Edward R. Roybal Center for Research on Applied Gerontology. Known locally as IU-Roybal, the Center is in its fifth year of providing pilot funding to Indiana University investigators. The most recent are:

Teresa Damush, PhD – Telehealth Delivery of Secondary Stroke Prevention

This pilot tests an alternative intervention delivery system to reach veterans with stroke or TIA who are unable to travel to the VA for follow up programs. Dr. Damush and colleagues will evaluate the usability by veterans and staff of the videophone and of teleconferencing in delivering an intervention to two VA sites.

Barbara Habermann, PhD, RN - Dyadic Experiences in Advanced Chronic Neurological Illness

This pilot will demonstrate the feasibility of identifying and recruiting spousal dyads at the advanced stage of two life-limiting chronic neurological illnesses, identify families' needs and end of life preferences in the advanced stages of illness and ultimately lead to the development and testing of a dyadic intervention via an R01 mechanism.

Douglas K. Miller, MD - Early Subclinical-disability Trends in African-Americans and Disparities (E-STAND)

The data from this pilot will be used to pursue two specific aims: (1) to estimate the frequency of subclinical disability and frank disability for lower body functions in African Americans and non-Hispanic whites in three age groups, and (2) to identify whether subclinical disability appears at younger ages in the African American sample than in non-Hispanic whites and, if so, at what age this disparity begins to appear.

IU-CAR Participates in GSA Annual Meeting

The Gerontological Society of American hosted its 61st Annual Scientific Meeting in November, 2008 in National Harbor, Maryland. The theme was *Resilience in an Aging Society: Risks and Opportunities*.



IU-CAR Research Coordinator **Laura Holtz, BS**, pictured left, presented the poster, "Public Perceptions about Investigational Screening for Memory: Measuring the Caregiver's Attitudes about Dementia Screening."

Also attending were lead author on the poster, **Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH**, **Chris Callahan, MD**, and **Douglas K. Miller, MD**.

Dr. Miller was an author on the podium paper, "Antecedents of Extensive Decline in Health-Related Quality of Life Among African Americans," and he represented IU Geriatrics at a leadership meeting of the John A. Hartford Centers of Excellence in Geriatric Medicine.



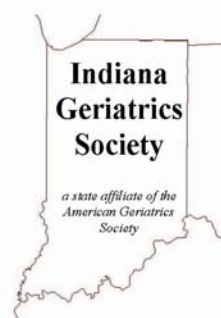
MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Indiana Geriatrics Society Annual Spring Dinner Meeting

March 12, 2009 at 6:00 pm

The Fountains Banquet & Conference Center
Carmel, Indiana



BECOME A MEMBER IN 2009!

Receive quarterly newsletters, enjoy attending conferences, and connect with other professionals involved in the care of older adults.

[2009 IGS Membership Form - pdf](#)

Publications

Schubert CC, Boustani M, Callahan CM, Perkins AJ, Hui S, Hendrie HC. [Acute Care Utilization by Dementia Caregivers Within Urban Primary Care Practices.](#) J Gen Intern Med. 2008 Nov;23(11):1736-40.

Dozens and dozens of media outlets from radio, television and the Internet were quick to pick up IU School of Medicine reporter Cindy Fox Aisen's [news release](#) on our publication about dementia caregivers. Read one...

[Washington Post article](#) [Forbes.com](#) [U.S. News & World Report](#)



Callahan CM, Weiner M, Counsell SR. [Defining the Domain of Geriatric Medicine in an Urban Public Health System Affiliated with an Academic Medical Center.](#) J Am Geriatr Soc. 2008 Oct;56(10):1802-6.

Torke AM, Sachs GA. [Self-neglect and Resistance to Intervention: Ethical Challenges for Clinicians.](#) J Gen Intern Med. 2008 Nov;23(11):1926-27.

Bair MJ, Wu J, Damush TM, Sutherland JM, Kroenke K. [Association of Depression and Anxiety Alone and in Combination With Chronic Musculoskeletal Pain in Primary Care Patients.](#) Psychosom Med. 2008 Oct;70(8):890-7.

Ichikawa S, Koller DL, Curry LR, Lai D, Xuei X, Pugh EW, Tsai YY, Doheny KF, Edenberg HJ, Hui SL, Foroud T, Peacock M, Econs MJ. [Identification of a Linkage Disequilibrium Block in Chromosome 1Q Associated with Bone Mineral Density in Premenopausal White Women.](#) J Bone Miner Res. 2008 Oct;23(10):1680-8.

Farlow MR. [Randomized clinical trial results for donepezil in Alzheimer's disease: is the treatment glass half full or half empty?](#) J Am Geriatr Soc. 2008 Aug;56(8):1566-7.

Aisen PS, Schneider LS, Sano M, Diaz-Arrastia R, van Dyck CH, Weiner MF, Bottiglieri T, Jin S, Stokes KT, Thomas RG, Thal LJ; Alzheimer Disease Cooperative Study (**Farlow M, Hake AM**). [High-dose B vitamin supplementation and cognitive decline in Alzheimer disease: a randomized controlled trial.](#) JAMA. 2008 Oct 15;300(15):1774-83.

Presentations and Professional Activities

Michael Weiner, MD, MPH, authored "How to improve our committee work" in the Society for General Internal Medicine Forum published in the September 2008 issue.

Ella Bowman, MD, PhD, presented "Pressure Ulcers: Strategies for Prevention, Evaluation and Management" at Medicine Grand Rounds held on September 3, 2008, at the La Porte Hospital, La Porte, Indiana.

As the invited keynote speaker, **Steve Counsell, MD**, presented "Collaborative Models for Meeting the Future Healthcare Needs of an Aging Population" on October 17, 2008 at the Wide Bay Burnett Region Aged Care Planning Workshop in Maryborough, Queensland, Australia.

Dr. Counsell also presented "An Evidence-Based Approach to Improving Hospital Care of Older Persons" on October 23, 2008 at the seminar, Rehabilitation, Aged Care & Allied Health at the [Department of Rehabilitation, Aged and Extended Care](#), Flinders University School of Medicine, Repatriation General Hospital, Adelaide, South Australia.

Announcements

Richard Kohler, MD, will present "Pneumonia in Elderly Adults" at the IU Geriatrics Conference from 7:30-8:30am on January 14, 2009, in Wishard's T2008 A & B. Dr. Kohler is professor of medicine in the Department of Medicine's Division of Infectious Diseases, IUSM.