



# **Division of General Internal Medicine and Clinical Innovation**

## **Research Update 2025**



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## Message from the Director

I am pleased to share the 2025 Division of General Internal Medicine and Clinical Innovation’s research accomplishments. This work is made possible by the passion and grit of engaged faculty, residents, medical students, the dedication of our staff, partnership with our patients, and the commitment of our healthcare system.

Our faculty are advancing research in our core areas of obesity and nutrition, substance use disorders, health equity and health systems. As national leaders in medical education research, our faculty are transforming how learners’ skills are assessed and are validating tools for measuring the impact of training on patient outcomes.

We are proud to collaborate with Divisions and Departments across our institution, as well as with external partners from academic medical centers and the communities we serve. These alliances enrich our work and amplify our impact. Our research is widely disseminated through high-impact publications and national academic presentations. Our foundation and philanthropic funded pilot projects are increasingly leading to larger federally funded grants.

While we celebrate all that our division has achieved, we also look to the future. We are committed to expanding our research infrastructure and embracing emerging technologies, including the thoughtful integration of artificial intelligence to enhance clinical decision-making, education, and health systems research. As the healthcare landscape evolves, our Division remains dedicated to leading through innovation, collaboration, and excellence —pioneering advances at the intersection of clinical care, education, and research.

**Sondra Zabar, MD**  
Professor of Medicine  
Director, Division of General Internal Medicine and Clinical Innovation  
NYU Grossman School of Medicine



# Leveraging Obesity Cohorts to Advance Research and Health Equity

Obesity remains one of the most pressing public health challenges of our time, contributing to a wide range of chronic conditions including diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and certain cancers. It is a complex, multifactorial disease that requires longitudinal research to understand its biological, behavioral, and social determinants.



**Melanie Jay, MD, MS**, leads a multidisciplinary team of researchers through her MOTIVATE Research Lab (Maximizing Obesity Treatment through Innovation, Value, Access, Training, and Equity). They are dedicated to advancing obesity research by developing innovative, sustainable strategies that transform clinical care and enhance quality of life.

Led primarily by Dr. Jay, with collaborators across NYU Langone and the VA system, they have curated several obesity cohorts representing diverse populations and integrate clinical, behavioral, and biospecimen data. The table below provides a snapshot of the cohorts, and we are in the process of curating others. With funding from a K24 NIH grant from the NHLBI, trainees and collaborators can leverage this data to better understand how social determinants of health interact with biology and other factors to impact weight management outcomes in diverse patient populations. Importantly, many of these cohorts are longitudinal and include consent for future contact, enabling ongoing follow-up and potential new research opportunities.

PI	Cohort Description or Study Title
Melanie Jay	<b>Bariatric Surgery Cohort and Biorepository (NYU Langone and Bellevue Hospital)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 355 patients (68% Hispanic, 20% Black)</li><li>• 300 had sleeve gastrectomy</li><li>• Biosamples at 5 timepoints</li><li>• Continuous glucose monitoring in ~50</li><li>• 10-year follow-up planned</li><li>• <b>Study protocol: Randomized controlled trial of web-based decision support tools for high-risk women and healthcare providers to increase breast cancer chemoprevention.</b> <i>Contemp Clin Trials Commun.</i> 2019.</li></ul>
Jose Aleman	<b>Bariatric Surgery Sub Cohort</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ~30 patients from above cohort</li><li>• Liver and fat biopsies</li><li>• Continuous glucose monitoring</li><li>• Biosamples at 6 timepoints</li></ul>
Melanie Jay	<b>IRB Protocol for Universal Consent</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Access to NYU patients with obesity</li><li>• Not yet utilized</li><li>• Approved during COVID</li></ul>

PI	Cohort Description or Study Title
Melanie Jay	<b>Goals for Eating and Moving Study (NIH R01)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 489 patients from VA and Montefiore</li><li>• Tech-assisted coaching vs. usual care</li><li>• Data at 4 timepoints</li><li>• <b>A Cluster-Randomized Study of Technology-Assisted Health Coaching for Weight Management in Primary Care,</b> <i>The Annals of Family Medicine</i>, 2024</li></ul>
Manish Parikh	<b>Bellevue Bariatric Surgery Cohort</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• &gt;500 patients</li><li>• Genotyping in collaboration with Geisinger</li></ul>
Melanie Jay	<b>Peer-Assisted Lifestyle Coaching (VA Merit Review)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 281 patients at Brooklyn VA</li><li>• Peer coaching vs. usual care</li><li>• <b>Peer-Assisted Lifestyle (PAL) intervention: a protocol of a cluster-randomised controlled trial of a health-coaching intervention delivered by veteran peers to improve obesity treatment in primary care.</b> <i>BMJ Open</i>, 2021.</li></ul>
Melanie Jay	<b>Financial Incentive Strategies for Weight Loss (NIH R01)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 668 patients from low-income areas</li><li>• 3-arm financial incentive trial</li><li>• <b>Cost-effectiveness of goal-directed and outcome-based financial incentives for weight loss in low-income populations: the FIREWoRk randomized clinical trial.</b> <i>Int J Obes (Lond)</i>, 2024.</li></ul>
Melanie Jay	<b>WOOP VA: Mental Contrasting with Implementation Intentions (MCII) to Promote Weight Management in Primary Care (VA Merit Review)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 405 patients at Manhattan VA</li><li>• WOOP + MOVE! vs. MOVE! Alone</li><li>• Ongoing</li></ul>
Jeannette Beasley, Joshua Chodosh	<b>BRinging the Diabetes Prevention Program to GEriatric Populations (BRIDGE) (NIH R01)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ~300 older adults with prediabetes</li><li>• Remote vs. in-person DPP</li><li>• Recruitment ongoing</li></ul>
Collin J. Popp	<b>Personalized Diet Study (American Heart Association)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 199 patients at NYU Langone</li><li>• Personalized vs. low-fat diet</li><li>• <b>Effect of a Personalized Diet to Reduce Postprandial Glycemic Response vs a Low-fat Diet on Weight Loss in Adults with Abnormal Glucose Metabolism and Obesity: A Randomized Clinical Trial.</b> <i>JAMA network open</i>. 2022.</li></ul>

# Transforming Medical Education: Next Era of Assessment

As one of the conference organizers, **Sondra Zabar, MD** and colleagues, Adina Kalet, MD and Tavindar Ark, PhD, currently with City University of New York, in collaboration with the National Board Medical Examiners (NBME), convened a landmark meeting to define the next era of assessment in medical education. This meeting brought together national and international leaders from regulatory bodies, academic institutions, and research organizations to address the evolving challenges and opportunities in assessment. The meeting emphasized collaborative, cross-disciplinary dialogue and was structured to foster innovation through a Cambridge-style format. Key themes emerged around contextualizing assessment, rebuilding trust and accountability, leveraging data infrastructure, and integrating technology—all with the shared goal of centering assessment practices on both learners and patients.

The outcomes of this initiative have laid the groundwork for a transformative shift in how medical education assessment is conceptualized and implemented. Recommendations include:

- Embedding contextual factors into assessment design
- Enhancing transparency and trust through systemic reforms
- Developing interoperable data systems that support learner development and patient care

The collaborative nature of this work, involving 30 stakeholders from across North America and Europe, underscores its broad relevance and potential for global impact. Next steps involve operationalizing these recommendations through pilot programs, policy development, and continued stakeholder engagement to ensure sustainable and equitable implementation across multiple educational and healthcare settings.



As a result of the conference, this year we published a collection of key articles in *Perspectives on Medical Education*:

## Introducing the next era in assessment.

Smirnova A, Barone MA, **Zabar S**, Kalet A. Perspectives on Medical Education (2025), 14(1), p. 1–8.



## The next era of assessment: building a trustworthy assessment system.

Caretta-Weyer HA, Smirnova A, Barone MA, Frank JR, Hernandez-Boussard T, Levinson D, Lombarts KMJMH, Lomis KD, Martini A, Schumacher DJ, Turner DA, Schuh A. Perspectives on Medical Education (2024), 13(1), p. 12–23.

## Digital evidence: revisiting assumptions at the intersection of technology and assessment.

Krumm AE, Chahine S, Schuh AM, Schumacher DJ, **Zabar S**, George BC, Marcotte K, Sebok Syer SS, Barone MA, Smirnova A. Perspectives on Medical Education (2024), 13(1), p. 553–560.

## Sharing is caring: helping institutions and health organizations leverage data for educational improvement.

Sebok-Syer SS, Smirnova A, Duwell E, George BC, **Triola MM**, Feddock CA, Chahine S, Rubright JD, Thoma B. Perspectives on Medical Education (2024), 13(1), p. 486–495.

## The next era of assessment within medical education: exploring intersections of context and implementation.

Kassam A, de Vries I, **Zabar S**, Durning SJ, Holmboe E, Hodges B, Boscardin C, Kalet A. Perspectives on Medical Education (2024), 13(1), p. 496–506.

## Validity in the next era of assessment: consequences, social impact, and equity.

Kinnear B, St-Onge C, Schumacher DJ, Marceau M, Naidu T. Perspectives on Medical Education (2024), 13(1), p. 452–459.

## Proximity to practice: the role of technology in the next era of assessment.

Krumm, A.E., Lai, H., Marcotte, K., Ark, T.K., Yaneva, V. and Chahine, S. Perspectives on Medical Education (2024), 13(1), p. 646–653.



Advancing Research to Address Chronic Conditions

Faculty in our Division have NIH and other federally funded projects as well as institution-sponsored grants to address key public health issues, including diabetes, obesity, hypertension, substance use, HIV prevention, and nutrition. Their work advances understanding of the social, structural, and clinical factors that influence health outcomes and informs the development of more equitable, culturally responsive, and scalable models of care. Through rigorous study design and implementation, faculty are shaping the evidence base around digital health tools, behavior change strategies, and chronic disease prevention and management.

PI Name	Title	Funder
Jeannette Beasley, Joshua Chodosh	<b>BRinging the Diabetes Prevention Program to GEriatric Populations (BRIDGE)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Randomized control trial testing both virtual and in-person delivery of the CDC’s Diabetes Prevention Program for our Faculty Group Practice patients.</li><li>Recruitment completed in June 2025, earned preliminary recognition status from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.</li></ul>	NIH R01  9/1/2021–8/31/2026  \$4,232,819
Elaine DeLeon	<b>BRinging the Diabetes Prevention Program to GEriatric Populations (BRIDGE)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Extending upon the work of the NIH-funded parent study BRIDGE (above), this project adapted BRIDGE for the FHC at NYU Langone’s Spanish-speaking Hispanic/Latinx community (BRIDGE-S).</li><li>Researchers are conducting sessions virtually and in-person with community partners at Senior Planet and at the Sunset Park Older Adult Center, a part of the FHC.</li></ul>	NIH R01 Supplement  6/1/2025–11/30/2026  \$282,058
Elaine De Leon	<b>BRIDGE Seed Grant</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>This grant enabled researchers to begin work on BRIDGE-S to create a diabetes prevention program that reaches the Spanish-speaking patients across the health system.</li></ul>	Steinhart - Institute of Human Development and Social Change  5/1/2024–4/31/2025  \$14,692
Melanie Jay	<b>WOOP VA: Mental Contrasting with Implementation Intentions (MCII) to Promote Weight Management in Primary Care</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A randomized controlled trial evaluating the efficacy of the WOOP (Wish, Outcome, Obstacle, Plan) intervention combined with the VA’s MOVE! weight management program vs MOVE alone. The study successfully enrolled 405 Veterans, with completion anticipated in Spring 2026.</li><li>The intervention integrates a cognitive-behavioral technique (MCII) into an existing VA program to enhance participant engagement in weight loss and management behaviors.</li><li>If proven effective, the WOOP + MOVE! approach could be scaled across the VA health system nationwide to improve weight management outcomes.</li></ul>	VA Merit Review  1/1/2021–12/31/2025  \$1,198,827

PI Name	Title	Funder
Melanie Jay	<b>Mentoring the next generation of trainees in patient-oriented, community engaged research in obesity and health equity</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>This 2-pronged grant is aimed at growing the research workforce through mentoring and evaluating the relationship between neighborhood and individual social determinants of health (SDOH) in obesity.</li><li>As a mentor, Dr. Jay is developing mentoring and leadership skills through participation in relevant coursework and experiential learning.</li></ul>	NIH K24  4/1/23–3/31/2028  \$626,379
Melanie Jay	<b>Vetcare Center of Innovation – VETCARE (Veterans EquiTy in the Cancer CAre Continuum Research)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>This grant positions the New York Harbor VA among an elite group of 18 VA medical centers nationwide, with a mission to advance health equity in cancer and chronic disease care for Veterans.</li><li>Provides critical resources and infrastructure to expand and support health services research, fostering innovation and collaboration across disciplines.</li><li>Under the direction of Drs. Danil Makarov, Melanie Jay, and Scott Sherman, the center will leverage existing strengths to drive impactful research.</li></ul>	Department of Veteran Affairs  10/1/24–9/1/2029  \$2,500,000
Mat Kladney	<b>Bellevue GO Study: GLP-1 Agonists for Opioid Use Disorder</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A three-year, placebo-controlled clinical trial to evaluate the use of semaglutide, a GLP-1 agonist, alongside standard treatments (buprenorphine or methadone) for opioid use disorder.</li><li>Building on evidence that food and drug cravings activate similar brain regions, the study explores semaglutide’s potential to reduce opioid cravings.</li><li>If successful, this research could introduce a novel pharmacological approach to enhance existing opioid addiction treatments and reduce relapse rates.</li></ul>	NIDA UH3 – Subaward with Penn State  9/1/2024–8/31/2028  \$1,338,127

PI Name	Title	Funder
Robert Pitts, Angelica Cifuentes Kottkamp	<b>Study of Oral Weekly GS-1720 and GS-4182 Versus Biktarvy in People With HIV-1 Who Are Virologically Suppressed (WONDERS1) (Phases 2/3)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A randomized control trial to compare the safety and efficacy of a combination of the experimental drugs (GS-1720 and GS-4182) with the current standard-of-care treatment in those who are virologically suppressed.</li></ul>	Gilead  10/15/2019 12/14/2025  \$69,823
Robert Pitts, Angelica Cifuentes Kottkamp	<b>Study of Oral Weekly GS-1720 and GS-4182 Compared with Biktarvy in People With HIV-1 Who Have Not Been Treated (WONDERS2)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A randomized control trial to compare the safety and efficacy of a combination of the experimental drugs (GS-1720 and GS-4182) with the current standard-of-care treatment in those who are treatment-naïve.</li></ul>	Gilead  10/15/2019–12/14/2025  \$67,942
Robert Pitts, Ofole Mgbako, Sahnah Lim	<b>Long-Acting Injectable PrEP (LAI-PrEP) and Community Based Organization (CBO) Partnerships</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>We are partnering with CBOs to educate communities about LAI-PrEP and address barriers to access and uptake.</li></ul>	Viiv Healthcare  10/15/2019–12/14/2025  \$671,759
Robert Pitts, Ofole Mgbako	<b>EquiPrEP: Implementation of Long-Acting Injectable HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis Utilizing an Equity Framework</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>This study uses an equity-oriented implementation science framework to address social determinants of health to enhance EquiPrEP use in partnership with community-based organizations.</li></ul>	NYC Health+Hospitals  10/15/2024–1/14/2025  \$500,000
Sandra Wittleder	<b>A Technology-assisted Intervention to Enhance Management and Adherence of Injectable Anti-Obesity Medications (IAOM)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Researchers conducted interviews with physicians and patients from our Family Health Center at NYULH to identify barriers to adherence of injectable anti-obesity medications</li><li>In addition to the essential role of multidisciplinary teams, key needs identified were enhanced communication, routine check-ins, and structured educational tools, including injection training, side effect management, and dietary guidance.</li></ul>	NYU Grossman School of Medicine, The Clinical and Translational Science Institute  01/2024–12/2025  \$40,000

The list below of selected publications and presentations highlights key contributions in the fields of diabetes, obesity, nutrition, hypertension, substance use disorder and other chronic conditions.

**Creating a dashboard for oversight of a comprehensive medication management program for patients with type 2 diabetes in a large municipal healthcare system in the United States**  
Rickard JP, Zhou S, Kumar N, Jackson HB, Chen K  
*J Am Coll Clin Pharm.* 2025 May;8(5):358-366.

**Culturally tailored social media intervention improves health outcomes in Chinese Americans with type 2 diabetes: preliminary evidence from a pilot RCT**  
Shi Y, Sevick MA, Tang H, Wang C, Zhao Y, Yoon SH, Li H, Jiang Y, Bai Y, Ong IH, Yang X, Su L, Levy N, Tamura K, Hu L  
*J Gen Intern Med.* (2025)

**Decline in use of high-risk agents for tight glucose control among older adults with diabetes in New York City: 2017–2022**  
Zhang J, Kanchi R, Conderino S, Levy NK, Adhikari S, Blecker S, Davis N, Divers J, Rabin C, Weiner M, Thorpe L, Dodson JA  
*J Am Geriatr Soc.* 2024 Sep;72(9):2721–2729.

**Effects of the leisure-time physical activity environment on odds of glycemic control among United States veterans with a new type-2 diabetes diagnosis**  
Orstad SL, D’antico PM, Adhikari S, Kanchi R, Lee DC, Schwartz MD, Avramovic S, Alemi F, Elbel B, Thorpe LE  
*Prev Med.* 2025 May;194:108274

**Engagement in the national diabetes prevention program among Hispanic men**  
Gonzalez CJ, Perez-Mejia CN, Hernandez N, Flaxman H, Stephenson-Hunter C, Gil E, De Leon E, Formagini T, Chambers EC, Shapiro MF, Gonzalez JS  
*JAMA Netw Open.* 2025;8(6).

**Patient portal messaging to address delayed follow-up for uncontrolled diabetes: a pragmatic, randomised clinical trial**  
Nagler AR, Horwitz LI, Ahmed A, Mukhopadhyay A, Dapkins I, King W, Jones SA, Szerencsy A, Pulgarin C, Gray J, Mei T, Blecker S  
*BMJ Qual Saf.* 2025 May

**Variations in weight loss and glycemic outcomes after sleeve gastrectomy by race and ethnicity**  
Vanegas SM, Curado S, Zhou B, Illenberger N, Merriwether EN, Armijos E, Schmidt AM, Ren-Fielding C, Parikh M, Elbel B, Alemán JO, Jay M  
*Obesity (Silver Spring).* 2025 Jun 16.





**A cluster-randomized study of health coaching for weight management in primary care**

Jay MR, Wittleder S, Vandyousefi S, Illenberger N, Nicholson A, Sweat V, Meissner P, Angelotti G, Ruan A, Wong L, Aguilar AD, Orstad S, Sherman S, Armijos E, Belli H, Wylie-Rosett J  
*Annals of Family Medicine.* 2024 September, 22(5), 392–399.

**Cohort profile: study design and baseline characteristics of an observational longitudinal weight loss cohort and biorepository of patients undergoing sleeve gastrectomy in the USA**

Vanegas SM, Curado S, Gujral A, Valverde G, Parraga S, Aleman JO, Reid M, Elbel B, Schmidt AM, Heffron SP, Segal E, Li H, Abrams C, Sevick MA, Popp C, Armijos E, Merriwether EN, Ivezaj V, Ren-Fielding C, Parikh M, Jay M  
*BMJ Open.* 2024 Aug 24;14(8):e081201.

**Lightening the load: generative AI to mitigate the burden of the new era of obesity medical therapy**

Stevens ER, Elmaleh-Sachs A, Lofton H, Mann DM  
*JMIR Diabetes.* 2024 Nov 14;9:e58680.

**Implementing a diet risk score (DRS) for Spanish-speaking adults in a clinical setting: a feasibility study**

Johnston EA, Torres M, Hansen J, Ochoa K, Mortenson D, De Leon E, Beasley JM  
*Nutrients.* 2024 Sep 5;16(17):2992

**Stronger together than apart: the role of social support in adopting a healthy plant-based eating pattern**

Ortiz R, Massar RE, McMacken M, Albert SL  
*Appetite.* 2024 Jul 1;198:107341

**Relationships between socioecological factors and self-efficacy to participate in physical activity for adults with chronic musculoskeletal pain: an integrative review**

Vorensky M, Orstad SL, Squires A, Parraga S, Byrne K, Merriwether EN  
*Physical Therapy.* Volume 104, Issue 10, October 2024, pzae120

**Closing hypertension equity gaps through digitally inclusive remote patient monitoring**

Schoenthaler A, Hack R, Mandal S, De La Calle F, Elmaleh-Sachs A, Nay J, Colella D, Fontil V, Shahin G, Dapkins I  
*NEJM Catal Innov Care Deliv.* 2025;6(3). Published February 19, 2025

**Non-inferiority of online compared with in-person opioid overdose prevention training in medical students**

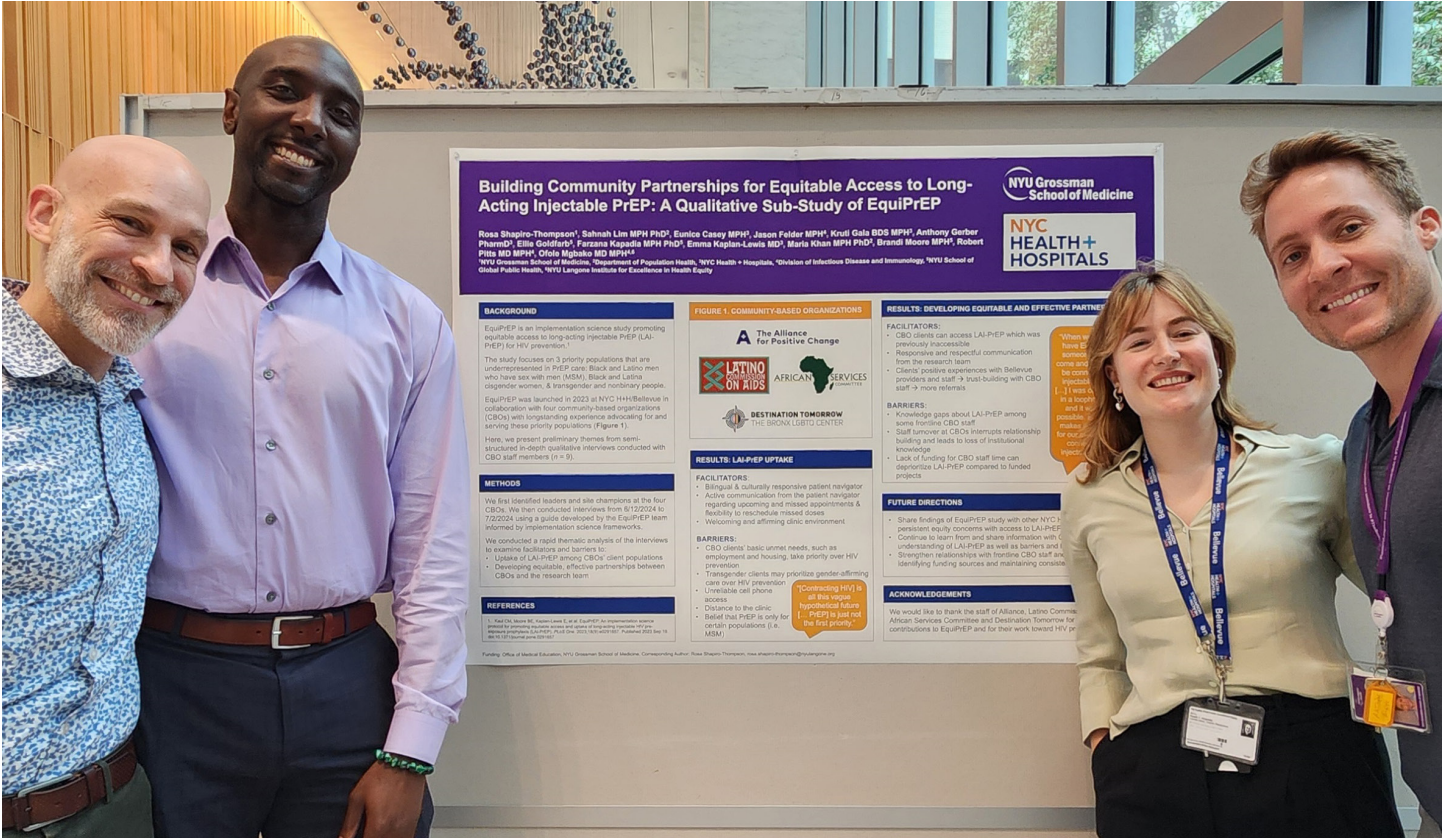
Berland N, Fox AD, Goldfeld K, Greene A, Lugassy D, Hanley K, deSouza IS  
*Subst Use Addict J.* 2025 Mar

**WOOP as a brief alcohol intervention led by lay coaches in college settings**

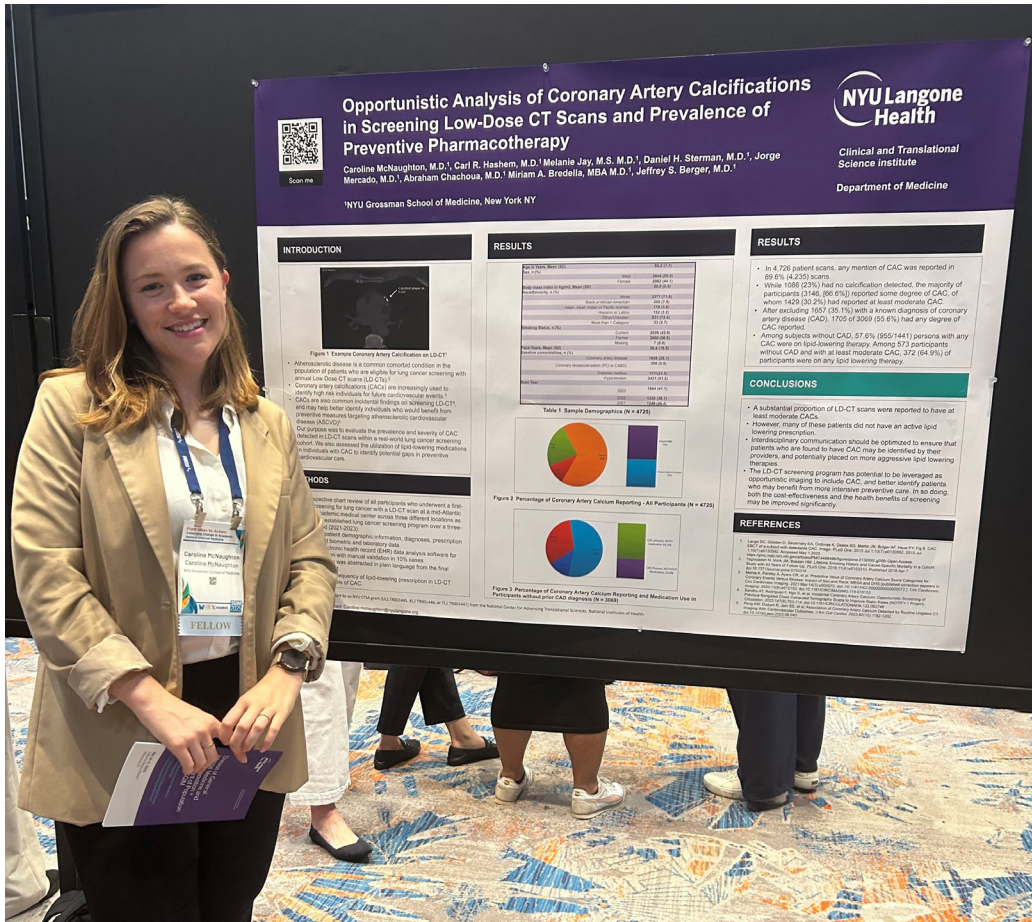
Wittleder S, Bhoopsingh B, Gollwitzer PM, Jay M, Mutter E, Valshtein T, Angelotti G, Oettingen G  
*Health Educ Behav.* 2025 Jun;52(3):299–308

**A mixed-methods evaluation of an HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis educational intervention for healthcare providers in a NYC safety-net hospital-based obstetrics and gynecology clinic**

Oot A, Kapadia F, Moore B, Greene RE, Katz M, Denny C, Pitts R  
*AIDS Care.* 2024 Oct;36(10):1537–1544







**Multi-level factors influencing HIV risk behaviors and oral PrEP use among Black and Latino men with heterosexual contact in New York City**

Gatanaga OS, Lanza DV, Pitts RA, Braithwaite RS, Lim S.

*PLoS One*. 2025 Jul 11;20(7):e0327677

**Harm reduction techniques among cisgender gay, bisexual, and queer men using anabolic androgenic steroids: a qualitative study**

Kutscher E, Arshed A, Greene RE, Kladney M

*Harm Reduct J*. 2024;21:196

**Improved access to behavioral health care for patients in a large New York City behavioral health clinic by the transition to telemedicine**

Reliford A, Zhang E, Liu A, Lanina O, Williams SZ, Sanichar N, Khan S, Dapkins I, Frankle WG

*Telemed Rep*. 2025 Mar 31;6(1):91–98

**Recruitment strategies and obstacles during the zoster eye disease study**

Sherman MD, Asbell P, Warner D, Mian SI, Cohen E, Lee TF, Gillespie C, Jimenez CL, Baratz KH, Jeng B

*Cornea*. 2024 Dec 3

**Selected Presentations**

- Kevin Shamash K, Nay K, Hyde J, **Dapkins I, Elmaleh-Sachs A**, Golombeck D. *Smoking cessation counseling in the primary care setting: an opt-in vs opt-out approach*. Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025.
- Moore BE, Kaul CM, Kaplan-Lewis E, Casey E, **Pitts RA**, Pagan Pirallo P, Lim S, Kapadia F, Cohen GM, Khan M, Mgbako O. *Concerns and motivations around long-acting injectable prep uptake among underserved groups in New York City: findings from the EquiPrEP study*. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, October 2024.
- Caponi M, Brice P, George E, James MK, Keneipp K, **Dapkins I**, Mason MK, **Bhat S**. *HIV/AIDs and oral health: integrating dental navigation in HIV care*. National Ryan White Conference, Washington, DC, August 2024.
- **Bhat, S**. *Enhancing sexual wellness: a novel approach to screening and prevention in an urban health center*. Infectious Disease Week, Los Angeles, CA, October 2024.
- **Vanegas S**, Curado S, Aleman JO, Armijos E, Parikh M, Ren-Fielding C, Schmidt AM, Sevick MA, Coronel M, Popp C, Elbel B, Jay M. *Ethnic and racial disparities in weight loss and glycemia improvements 2 years post sleeve gastrectomy*. Obesity Society – Obesity Week, San Antonio, TX, November 2024.
- **De Leon E**, Clemente M, Martinez T, **Beasley J**. *Adapting the diabetes prevention program to older Spanish-speaking Hispanic adults: clinician insights*. Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025.
- **Levy N**, Nerlino K, Bongalos S, Dasilva A, Uzor C, Liang YJ, Sonubi O. *General internists putting ideas into action: a text message-based program to transition patients with well-controlled type 2 diabetes from basal insulin to a GLP-1RA at a NYC safety-net clinic, full results of the miti-GLP-1 pilot program*. Innovation in Healthcare Delivery Oral Presentation. Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025.
- **Levy N**, Nerlino K, Bongalos S, Dasilva A, Uzor C, Liang YJ, Sonubi O, Olubunmi Sonubi. *The mobile insulin titration intervention to transition from basal insulin to a GLP-1RA (miti-GLP1)—using daily SMS text messages and weekly phone calls to transition primary care patients with well-controlled type 2 diabetes mellitus from basal insulin to a GLP-1RA at Bellevue hospital*. American Diabetes Association, 84th Scientific Session, Orlando, FL, June 2024.
- **Tanenbaum J**, Bongalos S, Dasilva A, Uzor C, Liang Y, Sonubi O, Lee J, Kim DS, Chen J, **Levy N**. *CGM access in primary care: feasibility analysis of the first 6 months of an urban safety-net clinic pilot program*. American Diabetes Association, 85th Scientific Session, Chicago, IL, June 2025.
- Hee (Christy) Lee H, **Elmaleh-Sachs A**, Pelegri E, McVey E, Anderman J, Gonzalez-Davila M, **Pye Y**, Colella D, Shahin G, **Dapkins I**. *Improving diabetes care through team-based care, primary care empowerment, and continuous practice transformation*. Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025



Driving Change in Health Systems and Clinical Practice

Our faculty are advancing research that strengthens health systems, expands access to care, and promotes quality care through innovative approaches to clinical practice, education, and policy. This scholarship addresses key issues such as telemedicine, informatics, healthcare workforce development, and care delivery in resource-constrained and safety-net settings. Research examines how artificial intelligence and clinical decision support can improve quality and efficiency of care. This work, illustrated by the list of active projects and selected publications below, informs systems-level change and supports more responsive, effective, and equitable models of care.

PI Name	Title	Funder
Cristina Gonzalez	<b>Disrupting Implicit Bias in Dental Clinical Decision-Making and Mitigating Its Effect on the Dentist-Scientist Workforce Pathway</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A multidisciplinary team is investigating and quantifying the impact of racial implicit bias on clinical decision-making and evaluating interventions to address this bias.</li><li>One aim is to enhance a pathway program to encourage young students to go into the dental field.</li></ul>	University of Maryland Baltimore  8/13/2024–8/12/2025  \$103,046
Sondra Zabar	<b>Evaluating the impact of a system wide visit length policy using USPs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Employed unannounced standardized patients [USPs] to evaluate the impact of policy that decreases duration of new patient primary care visits from 40 to 20 minutes.</li><li>Pre-policy appointment durations averaged 36 minutes, whereas post-policy appointment durations averaged 33 minutes.</li><li>In visits of short length, physicians neglected to discuss patient social contexts, were less effective at activating their patient and provided financial resource referrals less often.</li></ul>	NYC Health +Hospitals  3/1/2023–12/31/2024  \$10,000
Sondra Zabar	<b>Catching-Up to Care Standards: Comparing New Patient Telehealth and In-Person Communication Skills</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Deployed USPs into a large, urban safety net health system to evaluate pre-visit, day of visit, and after-visit contact with clinic staff and clinicians.</li><li>While protocols for telehealth exist, teams are still adapting to virtual care modalities and setting patient standards in this environment</li></ul>	NYC Health +Hospitals  3/1/2023–12/31/2024  \$10,000



Selected Publications

**A systematic review of the use of unannounced standardized patients (USPs) in clinical settings: a call for more detailed quality and fidelity descriptions and expansion to new areas**  
Wilhite JA, Phillips Z, Altshuler L, Hernan G, Lambert R, Nicholson J, Hanley K, Gillespie C, Zabar S  
*Patient Educ Couns.* 2025 Jan;130:108437

**Building a community-centered clinical research center in an underserved New York City neighborhood to enhance access to research, equity, and quality of care**  
Yakubov A, Holahan J, Lord A, Jay M, Gross R, Engelson C, Alvarez Z, Rodriguez M, Caba Caceres L, Reyes M, Drum E, Xing X, Medina R, Londhe S, Roy B, Alsayed I, Gold-von Simson G, Bredella MA  
*J Clin Transl Sci.* 2025 Feb 10;9(1):e51

**Caring for patients seeking asylum: early data from the safety net system in New York City**  
Newton-Dame R, Jacobson L, Wallach AB, Silverman E, Dreyer B, Long T  
*J Public Health Manag Pract.* 2025 May-Jun;31(3):477–485

**Does it get better? An ongoing exploration of physician experiences with and acceptance of telehealth utilization**  
Wilhite JA, Phillips Z, Altshuler L, Fisher H, Gillespie C, Goldberg E, Wallach A, Hanley K, Zabar S  
*J Telemed Telecare.* 2024 Aug;30(7):1190–1201

**Effect of a volunteer-staffed outreach call initiative on video usage and attendance for telehealth visits in an urban primary care safety-net setting**  
Chen K, Bailey K, Nemytov S, Morrison M, Zhang C, Katranji K, Jackson HB  
*J Eval Clin Pract.* 2025 Feb;31(1):e70019

**Health-related social needs discussions in primary care encounters in safety-net clinics: a qualitative analysis**  
De Leon E, Panganamamula S, Schoenthaler A  
*JAMA Netw Open.* 2025 Mar 3;8(3):e251997



**Healthcare utilization and chronic disease management for non-Medicaid-eligible patients in a city-wide safety-net healthcare access program**

Meltzer KK, Chen K, Zhang C, Zhou S, Long T, Jimenez J

*J Gen Intern Med.* 2025 Feb;40(2):430–436

**High-consequence infectious disease patient transport concept of operations for US Department of Health and Human Services Region 2**

Lo Piccolo AJ, Wallach AB, Guttsman J, Hillard L, Cairo M, Kyaw NTT, Foote M, Mukherjee V

*Health Secur.* 2025 May 8. Epub ahead of print

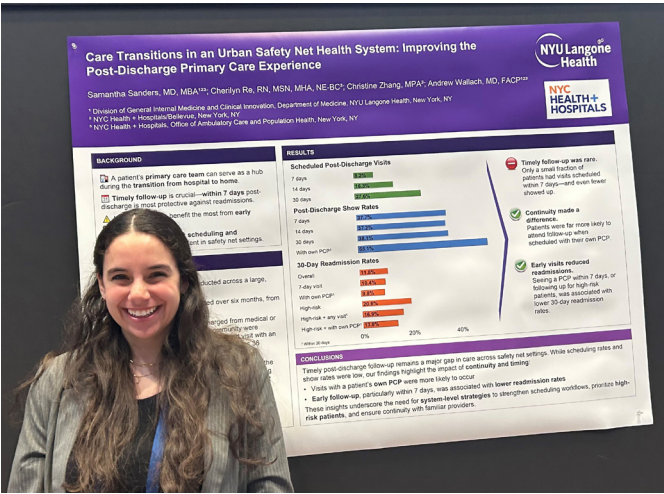
**Implementing and monitoring high-quality community health worker care in adult primary care at New York City Health + Hospitals**

Clapp J, Calvo-Friedman A, Tan YJ, Kumar SL, Lupi J, Conley D, Perdomo E, Davis NJ

*BMC Prim Care.* 2024;25:320

**Selected Presentations**

- Zhang S, Hardowar K, Altshuler, Hanley K, Chen K, Kristal R, Jackson HB, Wallach A, Gillespie C, Zabar S. *Balancing patient appointment time and volume: impact of a system-wide policy on clinician communication and decision-making.* Oral presentation in Ambulatory Care, Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025.
- Shen D, Meltzer K, O'Neill E, Bharadwaj G, Zhang C, Greene S, Cass SR, Jackson H. *Implementing eConsults at a large public health care system.* Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025.
- Sanders S, Re C, Zhang C, Wallach A. *Care transitions in an urban safety net health system: improving the post-discharge primary care experience.* Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025.
- Chen K, Bailey K, Nemytov S, Katranji K, Bouton M, Wallach A, Jackson HB. *Volunteer outreach and predictive modeling: a rapid controlled trial for new patient attendance in a primary care safety-net.* Academy of Health Research Annual Meeting, Minneapolis MN, June 2025.



**Strengthening Health Outcomes through Research Partnerships**

We, in the Division of General Internal Medicine and Clinical Innovation, have a shared purpose of advancing compassionate quality medical care for the people we serve. Through our research collaborations across NYU Grossman School of Medicine (NYUGSOM), the institution as a whole, our affiliated agencies and external organizations, we are making strides toward our core goal of improving the health of patients seen in diverse health care settings using strategies that are both practical to implement and translatable beyond our walls. As researchers, our faculty bring expertise in improving medical education, disease prevention and chronic disease care among urban populations.

We want to thank all our collaborators. We look forward to working with these and other institutions and organizations.

Department of Population Health	
Scott Braithwaite, Jessica Tannenbaum	Can a radical transformation of preventive care reduce mortality by 20% in low SES populations (NIH R34)
Jeannette Beasley, Stella Yi, Madison LeCroy	Effect of Supplemental Potassium on CVD-related Indicators and CVD Morbidity and Mortality: Evidence and Gap Map (Institute for the Advancement of Food and Nutrition Sciences)
Jeannette Beasley, Scott Sherman, Youssef Idaghdour, Emily Johnston	Evidence-Based Intervention for Diabetes Prevention (NYU Discovery Research Fund for Human Health, Early-Stage Research Award with NYU Abu Dhabi)
Lorna Thorpe, Stephanie Orstad	Impact of Community Factors on Geographic Disparities in Diabetes and Obesity Nationwide (CDC, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion)
Holly Krelle, Leora Horwitz, Arielle Elmaleh-Sachs, Olivia Korostoff-Larsson, Doreen Colella, Mila Gonzalez Davila, Elan Pelegri, Erika McManus	Improve rates of colorectal cancer screening at the Family Health Centers at NYU Langone through randomization of text messages to patients to remind them to complete their FIT tests (Pop Health - NYU Office of Science and Research Intramural Funding from the Rapid Randomized Controlled Trial Lab)
Lu Hu, Jeannette Beasley, Stella Yi	Integrating CuLtUral aspects into Diabetes Education (American Diabetes Association)
Jennifer McNeely, Mat Kladney	LINK-IT: Leveraging vIdeos and commuNity health woRkers to address social determinants of health in Immigrants (R01)
Isaac Dapkins, Antoinette Schoenthaler, Valy Fontil, Arielle Elmaleh-Sachs	Optimizing Retention, Duration and Discontinuation Strategies for Opioid Use Disorder Pharmacotherapy (CTN-0100 NIH HEAL Initiative)
Rajesh Vedanthan, Amanda Klinger, Sondra Zabar, Adam Schwartz, Kathleen Hanley, Christine Beltran	Optimizing Virtual Care grant for the FHCs at NYU Langone (HRSA)
Scott Sherman, Stephanie Orstad	Tamale Education and InnovAtion Center for Health Professionals (TEACH) to Strengthen Healthcare Delivery in Northern Ghana Foundation (Helmsley Charitable Trust Foundation; partnership with NYU Langone Health, the University for Development Studies School of Medicine, and Tamale Teaching Hospital in Ghana)
Antoinette Schoenthaler, Arielle Elmaleh-Sachs, Isaac Dapkins	Statin Prescribing Smart Set Initiative (HRSA)
Jeannette Beasley, Omar El Shahawy	Sustainable Approaches to Optimize Wellness (NYU Global Research Initiatives)
Department of Population Health & Perlmutter Cancer Center	
Meena Sigireddi, Julia Adamian, Devin Mann	Broadening the Reach, Impact, and Delivery of Genetic Services Study (NIH U01; subcontract with University of Utah)
Department of Population Health & University of California, San Fransico	
Scott Braithwaite, Robert Pitts, Susan Buchbinder	PrEP-3D: Compare the effectiveness of a newly created PrEP-3d app to standard of care for people starting and continuing PrEP, and adherence to PrEP (NIH R01)
Courtney Lyles, Valy Fontil	Remote Monitoring for Equity in Advancing Control of Hypertension (REACH) (NIH R01)



Division of Cardiology	
John A. Dodson, Natalie Levy, Kathleen Hanley	BETTER-BP (Behavioral Economics Trial to Enhance Regulation of Blood Pressure) (NIH R01)
Lior Jankelson, Matt Dai, Julia Adamian	Screening for Atrial Fibrillation using an Electrocardiogram-enabled Artificial Intelligence Model,” or SAFE-AI (a pragmatic cluster randomized clinical trial 23-00893)
Division of Geriatrics & Dartmouth College	
Joshua Chodosh, Yi Shan (Tiffany) Lee	Triadic dementia care – audio recorded visits to improve communication and outcomes (NIA)
Division of Hospital Medicine	
Saul Blecker, Julia Adamian	Addressing Antihypertensive Medication Adherence through EHR-Enabled Teamlets in Primary Care (NIH R01)
Department of Psychiatry and Division of Infectious Diseases	
John Rotrosen, Ben Eckhardt, Mathew Kladney, Ann Winters	Optimizing Pharmacotherapy Strategies for Opioid Use Disorder: Individual Level Predictive Modeling of Opioid Use Disorder Treatment Outcome (NIH, HEAL initiative)
CDC, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health	
Emily Haas, Stephanie Orstad	Communication Practices to Support Frontline Workers during Public Health Threats (CDC, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health) - ended in April 2025
Matt Horvatin, Stephanie Orstad	Program for Respirator Outreach, Training, Education, and Community Testing (CDC, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health)
The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine	
Suzanne Grieb, Amanda Bertram, Gabrielle Mayer, Lisa Altshuler, Richard Greene, Diane Klaschus, Lindsay Sheets, Calvin Schuster, Helene Hedian	Understanding Trans-Identified Standardized Patients' Experience of Engaging with Healthcare Trainees
Medical College of Wisconsin & Alfred University	
Lynn Buckvar-Keltz, Lisa Altshuler, Verna Monson, Michelle Tichy, Adina Kalet	Relationship between Professional Identity Formation and Individual and Educational Experiences in Medical Students
Maimonides Medical Center & Medical Education Consulting	
Lisa Altshuler, Elizabeth Kachur, Ingrid Walker-Descartes	Evaluation of Pediatric OSCE Curriculum
Division of Neurology	
Mia Minen, Julia Adamian	RELAXaHEAD: A Behavioral Approach to Remote Migraine Management in Primary Care (NIH R01)
Division of Pulmonology	
Andrew Wallach, Vikram Mukhurjee	Regional Emerging Special Pathogen Treatment Centers (RESPTCs) (HHS Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response)
Tufts University School of Medicine	
Hannah Jackson, Andrew Wallach, Mohan Thanikachalam	ViTrack: Wearable, Accurate, Continuous Blood Pressure Monitor to Improve Outcomes in Hypertensive Diseases of Pregnancy (NIH R44)
USDA, National Institute of Food and Agriculture & University of Maryland	
Colby Silvert, Stephanie Orstad	Program Planning and Evaluation Capacity Needs and Barriers among Extension Faculty (USDA, National Institute of Food and Agriculture)

## World Trade Center Clinical Research Program



The World Trade Center (WTC) health and research program was established and directed by Dr. Joan Reibman, a pulmonologist, in the aftermath of the WTC disaster.

In October 2024, the Division of General Internal Medicine and Clinical Innovation welcomed the program under the leadership of **Dr. Leigh Wilson**, a general internist. The federally funded program offers a wide range of clinical services for adult and children community survivors who lived, worked or were passing by the disaster area of the WTC towers, or a small area of Brooklyn, on 9/11/2001. As a **Center of Excellence**, comprehensive services for certified patients include ongoing provision of medical and mental health treatment, routine cancer screening, care coordination for cancers or severe illnesses, benefits counseling, and appropriate referrals.

The WTC program has a **Survivor Data Center** serving as a repository of the clinical data for these patients. This Center oversees data collection, management, reporting, and data analysis on over 15,000 survivors. Longitudinal health data is used for analytic or research efforts to understand current or emerging health issues. Initially research stemmed around pulmonary function and respiratory symptoms. Over time, the data collected shows a shift in health conditions to reflect more oncological and chronic conditions research.

The Data Center includes an analytics team of biostatisticians, epidemiologists, and clinicians, as well as a data management team. Investigators outside of the SDC may submit proposals to utilize the SDC data for external research studies. The WTC collaborates with investigators from other divisions within the Department of Medicine and the Department of Population Health, including Yongzhao Shao, PhD, Mengling Liu, PhD, Nedim Durmus, MD, and Alan Arslan, MD.

### Recent publications include:

**Association between World Trade Center disaster exposures and body mass index in community members enrolled at World Trade Center Environmental Health Center**  
Wang Y, Alptekin R, Goldring RM, Oppenheimer BW, Shao Y, Reibman J, Liu M  
*Environ Pollut.* 2025 Jan 15;365:125414

**Biomarkers of airway disease, Barrett's and underdiagnosed reflux noninvasively (BAD-BURN) in World Trade Center exposed firefighters: a case–control observational study protocol**  
Javed U, Podury S, Kwon S, Liu M, Kim DH, Fallahzadeh A, Li Y, Khan AR, Francois F, Schwartz T, Zeig-Owens R, Grunig G, Veerappan A, Zhou J, Crowley G, Prezant DJ, Nolan A  
*BMC Gastroenterol.* 2024 Aug;24:255

**Characteristics of survivors enrolled in the World Trade Center Health Program**  
Liu R, Santiago-Colón A, Butturini E, Kubale TL, Reibman J  
*Arch Environ Occup Health.* 2024;79(5–6):185–198

**DNA methylation as a molecular mechanism of carcinogenesis in World Trade Center dust exposure: insights from a structured literature review**  
Tuminello S, Durmus N, Snuderl M, Chen Y, Shao Y, Reibman J, Arslan AA, Taioli E  
*Biomolecules.* 2024 Oct 15;14(10):1302

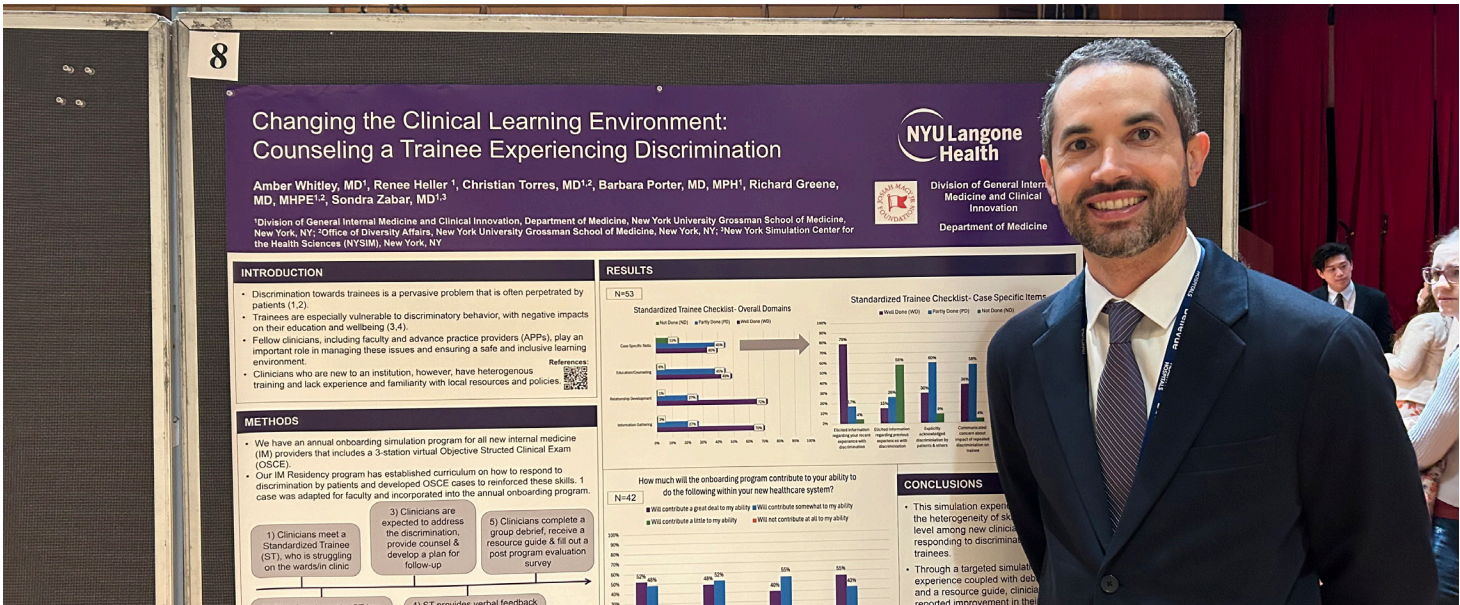
**Genome-wide DNA methylation profiles and breast cancer among World Trade Center survivors**  
Tuminello S, Ashebir YA, Schroff C, Ramaswami S, Durmus N, Chen Y, Snuderl M, Shao Y, Reibman J, Arslan AA  
*Environ Epidemiol.* 2024 Jun 4;8(3):e313

Reimagining Health Professions Education

As national leaders in advancing the science of medical education our faculty are driving change in areas of performance-based assessment, curriculum development, precision medicine, and innovation across the learning continuum in areas such as Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS). Their work shapes how we evaluate and support learners in ways that are evidence-based, clinically relevant, and aligned with the evolving needs of healthcare systems. Through the use of standardized patients and simulation, they are developing and testing approaches to support learners facing challenging clinical and interpersonal dynamics.

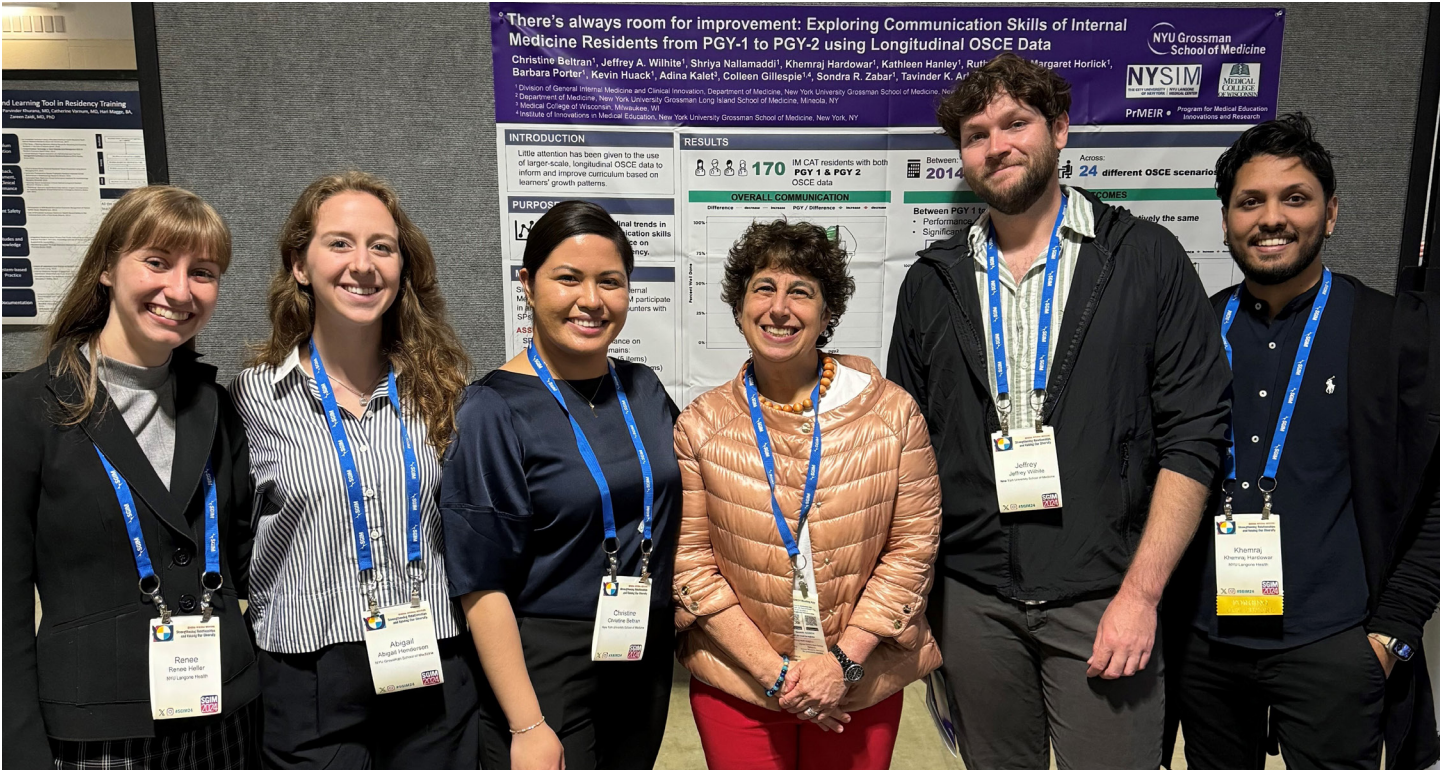
This research is examining the use of artificial intelligence to enhance feedback and documentation, exploring coaching models that support learners through critical transitions and implementing empathy training in medical education. Our faculty’s research is supported by prestigious medical education foundations and their contributions to the field are highlighted by the selected list of publications and presentations below. The research improves not only how we educate physicians, but how education contributes to better care, stronger teams, and a more responsive health system.

PI	Title	Funder
Cristina Gonzalez, Elaine De Leon, Tavinder Ark	<b>Novel Assessment Tool for Physician Communication Skills Related to Racial Implicit Bias: AI “Coach” in the Exam Room</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Researchers will train an AI model to identify verbal and nonverbal physician communication skills during a physician-standardized patient (SP) encounter.</li><li>They will generate, validate, and pilot test AI coaching feedback based on physician-SP encounters.</li></ul>	Stemmler  7/1/2025–6/30/2027  \$150,000
Kathleen Hanley	<b>Co-producing an OSCE Case Bank with TEACH: Establishing a Standardized National Approach to Teaching and Assessing Core Communication Skills</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Faculty implemented 2 station OSCE for 88 house-staff from TAMALE teaching hospital which is now a model for training.</li></ul>	AMPATH Ghana TEACH Pilot Project  1/1/2024–12/31/2024  \$5,000
Daniel Sartori	<b>Developing a Virtual Standardized Patient Program to Assess Trainees? Clinical Skills in the Telemedicine Era</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>An announced virtual standardized patient program was integrated into residents’ clinic workflows at NYU Brooklyn, with 79 encounters completed to date, enabling authentic, workplace-based telemedicine skill development.</li></ul>	The New York Academy of Medicine  7/1/2023–6/30/2025  \$50,000



PI Name	Title	Funder
Yuliya Yoncheva, Jesse Burk-Rafel	<b>Communication Compass: AI-Enhanced Feedback System</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Researchers are developing <i>Communication Compass</i>, an AI-powered system designed to offer personalized, near real-time feedback on learners’ communication skills by analyzing ambient audio from patient-physician interactions in standardized encounters.</li><li>They will test the system’s impact on educational outcomes and patient care through a randomized trial.</li></ul>	Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation  6/15/2025–6/14/2027  \$199,990
Sondra Zabar	<b>Using Simulation to Improve Telehealth Skills in Primary Care at all Development Levels</b> <p>This study investigates which communication skills are more or less challenging in virtual versus in-person settings in order to understand how modality impacts communication skill performance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Using our OSCE case bank, a confirmatory factor analysis was used to evaluate communication skill proficiency in telehealth versus in-person encounters, using a three-point Likert scale to identify thresholds for skill progression. By doing so, we hope to identify current telehealth performance gaps that can help inform future telehealth training.</li></ul>	AAMC  3/1/2023–2/28/2025  \$39,633





### Selected Publications

**Artificial intelligence based assessment of clinical reasoning documentation: an observational study of the impact of the clinical learning environment on resident documentation quality**

Schaye V, DiTullio DJ, Sartori DJ, Hauck K, Haller M, Reinstein I, Guzman B, Burk-Rafel J

*BMC Med Educ.* 2025;25:591

**Large language model-based assessment of clinical reasoning documentation in the electronic health record across two institutions: development and validation study**

Schaye V, DiTullio D, Guzman BV, Vennemeyer S, Shih H, Reinstein I, Weber DE, Goodman A, Wu DTY, Sartori DJ, Santen SA, Gruppen L, Aphinyanaphongs Y, Burk-Rafel J

*J Med Internet Res.* 2025 Mar 21;27:e67967

**The generative artificial intelligence revolution: how hospitalists can lead the transformation of medical education**

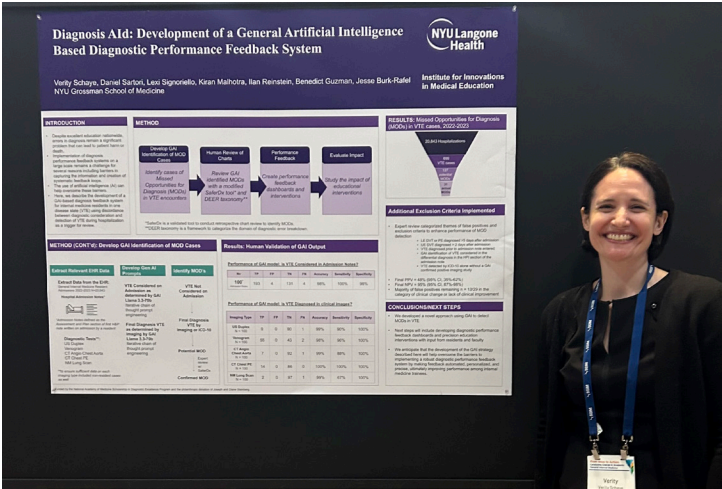
Schaye V, Triola MM

*J Hosp Med.* 2024 Dec;19(12):1181–1184

**Addressing a gap in health equity education: a qualitative analysis of a longitudinal GME course**

De Leon E, Chebly KO, Girmay B, Altshuler L, Gonzalez CM, Greene RE

*J Gen Intern Med.* 2025 Apr 17



**Diversity and inclusion through collaboration: co-producing a simulation curriculum to address discrimination against trainees**

Torres C, Morales D, Whitley A, Porter B, Greene R, Zabar S

*Acad Med.* 2024 Dec 1;99(12S Suppl 1):S56–S61

**Recommendations for faculty development in addressing implicit bias in clinical encounters and clinical learning environments**

Gonzalez CM, Greene RE, Cooper LA, Lypson ML

*J Gen Intern Med.* 2024 Sep;39(12):2326–2332

**Evaluating the impact of coaching through the transition to residency**

Winkel AF, Porter B, Scheer MR, Triola M, Pecoriello J, Cheloff AZ, Gillespie C

*J Gen Intern Med.* 2025 Jan;40(1):10–16

**Implementing an accelerated three-year MD curriculum at NYU Grossman School of Medicine**

Cangiarella J, Rosenfeld M, Poles M, Webster T, Schaye V, Ruggles K, Dinsell V, Triola MM, Gillespie C, Grossman RI, Abramson SB

*Med Teach.* 2024 Dec;46(12):1575–1583

**The Leicester empathy declaration: a model for implementing empathy in healthcare**

Howick J, Mercer S, Adams J, Levett-Jones T, Mobley W, Ward A, Winter R, Halpern J

*Patient Educ Couns.* 2024 Dec;129:108391

**Pilot training for clinical research professionals in using empathy to recognize and respond to implicit bias in research recruitment and retention**

Adams J, Gonzalez CM, Gillespie C, Holahan J, Minsky M, Datta S, Medina R, Yakubov A, Byrnes K, Bredella MA

*J Clin Transl Sci.* 2024 Nov 18;8(1):e209

**Writing a medical education grant budget**

Artino AR Jr, Fletcher KE, Arora VM, Zabar S

*J Grad Med Educ.* 2024 Oct;16(5):617–618

**Curriculum innovation: a standardized experiential simulation curriculum equips residents to face the challenges of chief year**

Zakin E, Abou-Fayssal N, Lord AS, Nelson A, Rostanski SK, Zhang C, Zabar S, Galetta SL, Kurzweil A

*Neurol Educ.* 2024 Jul 12;3(3):e200138



**Requested a different doctor: developing and evaluating an OSCE assessing core skills in supporting trainees facing patient discrimination**  
Beltran CP, Wilhite JA, Gonzalez CM, Porter B, Torres C, Horlick M, Hauck K, Gillespie C, Zabar S, Greene RE  
*J Gen Intern Med.* 2025 Jan;40(1):207–212

**Validity evidence for the Clinical Communication Skills Assessment Tool (CCSAT) from 9 years of implementation in a high stakes medical student OSCE**  
Ark T, Kalet A, Tewksbury L, Altshuler L, Crowe R, Wilhite J, Hardowar K, Zabar S, Gillespie C  
*Patient Educ Couns.* 2024;127:108323

**Toward precision medical education: characterizing individual residents’ clinical experiences throughout training**  
Drake CB, Rhee DW, Panigrahy N, Heery L, Iturrate E, Stern DT, Sartori DJ  
*J Hosp Med.* 2025 Jan; 20(1):17–25

**Evaluation of an international Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS) training program for internal medicine physicians**  
Chebly KO, Hernández E, Cifelli M, Janjigian M  
*POCUS J.* 2025 Apr 15;10(1):19–26

**Knowledge and confidence among five cohorts of faculty learners in a Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS) program: factors defining learner success**  
Janjigian M, Dembitzer A, Holmes I, Srisarajivakul Klein C, Hardowar K, Sauthoff H  
*POCUS J.* 2024 Nov 15;9(2):109–116

### Knowledge and Confidence Among Five Cohorts of Faculty Learners in a Point-of-Care Ultrasound Program: Factors Defining Learner Success

Michael Janjigian<sup>1</sup>, Anne Dembitzer<sup>1</sup>, Isaac Holmes<sup>1</sup>, Caroline Srisarajivakul-Klein<sup>1</sup>, Khemraj Hardowar<sup>1</sup>, Harald Sauthoff<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Bellevue Hospital Center, <sup>2</sup>NY Harbor Health Care System, <sup>3</sup>NYU Langone Health

Introduction

The availability of faculty proficient in point-of-care ultrasound (POCUS) has emerged as a barrier to the ongoing expansion of POCUS across IM. We sought to examine the faculty graduates of our institutional POCUS program to identify characteristics associated with long-term proficiency to inform curricula and guide institutional support.

Methods

We emailed a test and survey to the 89 faculty graduates of the annual POCUS course we have run from 2018-2023.

Results

Of the 46 participants (52%) who completed the test and survey, the overall median test score was 72%. Graduates were most confident with image acquisition of the lung and were most likely to use ultrasound to evaluate ascites and dyspnea. All 11 participants reporting completion of an image portfolio were actively teaching POCUS, whereas only 54% of non-completers were teaching. Portfolio completers scored higher on the test compared to non-completers (median 92% and 68%, respectively, p<0.01) and were more confident in image acquisition and interpretation (p<0.001).

Conclusion

In this long-term, single-institutional study of faculty graduates of an annual POCUS program, those having reported completing an image portfolio scored significantly higher on a knowledge test, reported higher confidence with image acquisition and interpretation, and reported using and teaching POCUS more frequently compared to graduates who did not complete the portfolio. POCUS education programs should be designed to foster continuous scanning practice and image portfolio completion.

Table 1. Comparison of test score to portfolio completion and POCUS use by cohort year

	All cohorts (n=46)	2018 cohort (n=24)	2020 cohort (n=22)
Portfolio completion			
Yes (n=11)	92	96	88
No or partial (n=35)	68	64	72
P value	<0.001		

Figure 1. How confident are you in your ability to acquire and interpret the following cases?

	Yes	Maybe	No
Ascites	100%	0%	0%
Dyspnea	100%	0%	0%
Other	100%	0%	0%

Figure 2. How confident are you in your ability to acquire and interpret the following cases?

	Yes	Maybe	No
Ascites	100%	0%	0%
Dyspnea	100%	0%	0%
Other	100%	0%	0%

Table 2. Confidence in image acquisition and interpretation by cohort year

	Portfolio completed (n=11)	Non-completers (n=35)
Image acquisition	92	68
Image interpretation	92	68
P value	<0.001	

Figure 3. How confident are you in your ability to acquire and interpret the following cases?

	Yes	Maybe	No
Ascites	100%	0%	0%
Dyspnea	100%	0%	0%
Other	100%	0%	0%

Newly Updated!

[Link to Book](#)

**Zabar S, Kachur E, Hanley K, Gillespie C, Kalet A.** Objective Structured Clinical Examinations: 10 Steps to Planning and Implementing OSCEs and Other Standardized Patient Exercises. 2nd ed. Springer; 2025.

Building on the first edition of their book, Drs. Zabar, Hanley, and Gillespie have published an expanded second edition. Using the same successful format to make the OSCE process easy and reproducible, they have added novel material and innovative best practices in every context, including notes for clinical reasoning, data reporting and visualization, virtual OSCEs, scholarship, and a research registry. OSCEs are important in health professions education across disciplines and the continuum of training, and NYULH continues to be a leader in this field.

This has been 5 years in the making and is a true collaboration, featuring 41 contributors from across NYU Langone Health and beyond the institution.

NYU Langone Health contributors: Linda Tewksbury, **Lynn Buckvar-Keltz, Barbara Porter, Verity Schaye, Ruth Crowe, Jennifer Adams, Daniel Sartori, Katharine Lawrence, Donna Phillips, Jeffrey Manko, Cynthia Osman, Anne Dembitzer, Jeffrey Wilhite, Renee Heller, Christine Beltran, and Lisa Altshuler.**

NYSIM contributors: Brielle Blatt, Virginia Drda, Kathleen Allen, Gene Mamaril, Sean Overstreet, Willie Lombeida, and Katherine Tame contributed a chapter.

Selected Presentations

- **Schaye V, Sartori D,** Signoriello L, Malhotra K, Reinstein I, Guzman B, Burk Rafel J. *Diagnosis Aid: an artificial intelligence-based diagnostic performance feedback system.* AAMC Group on Information Resources (GIR) Conference, Minneapolis, MN, May 2025.
- **Lawrence K,** Kuram V, Levine D, Malhotra K, Polet C, Owens K. *Informed consent for ambient documentation using generative artificial intelligence: an analysis for operational quality improvement.* Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025.
- **Adams J,** Monson V, Henderson A, **Buckvar-Keltz L,** Kalet A, **Altshuler L.** *Exploring the relationship between residency specialty choice and professional identity essays (PIE) in medical students.* Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025.
- Westbrook G, **Schaye V.** *A qualitative descriptive analysis of student comments about clerkship coordinator effectiveness.* AAMC NEGEA, New Brunswick, NJ, April 2025.
- **Rufin M, Mayer G, Levitt H, Boodram P, Adamian J, Zabar S.** *Internist's Salon: four years of community and knowledge building for GIM physicians.* Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025.
- Alyssar Habib, Juan Cerezo, Yanbing Chen, Lena Jorde, **Margaret Horlick, Elie Al Kazzi, Christian Torres.** *Evaluating internal medicine residents' attitudes towards their health equity curriculum.* Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025.

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- **Yoncheva Y, Zabar S, Porter B, Spodek M. Hauck K, Gillespie C, Adams J.** *Exploring the role of communication and empathy skills in establishing patient trust and belief in treatment.* Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025.
- **Robak M, Reinstein I, Gillespie C, Koscica N, Crotty K, Kudlowitz D, Rosenfeld M, Harnik V, Zabar S, Wichterle K, Schaye V.** *Validating competency in clinical skills assessment: internal consistency analysis of the redesigned NYU Grossman School of Medicine 7-station comprehensive clinical skills examination.* Learn Serve Lead 2024: The AAMC Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, November 2024.
- **Daniel Sartori, Renee Heller, Sondra Zabar, Rachael Hayes.** *Transforming transitions through telemedicine: a workplace-based simulation to teach and assess virtual clinical skills.* Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025.
- **Christine Beltran, Abdul-Jalilu Muntaka, Sondra Zabar, Sheila Owusu, Fathea Bani, Alhassan Abdul-Mumin, Kathleen Hanley.** *From the US to Ghana: demonstrating the universal value of communication skills training through an OSCE pilot in a teaching hospital in Northern Ghana.* Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025.
- **Renee Heller, Katherine Hochman, Sondra Zabar, Andrew Wallach.** *What's old is new again: training clinicians in early tuberculosis recognition and management.* Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025.
- **Wilhite J, Nallamaddi S, Beltran C, Altshuler L, Sartori D, Heller R, Hayes R, Hanley K, Zabar S, Gillespie C.** *Preliminary validation of the Telemedicine Skills Assessment Tool (TSAT) for use across the medical education continuum.* Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025.

- **Beltran C, Nallamaddi S, Wilhite J, Hardowar K, Hanley K, Altshuler L, Zabar S, Gillespie C.** *Bridging the virtual divide: exploring communication skill variations across modalities.* Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025.
- **Rabinowitz R, Janjigian M, Vidor N.** *Going for gold: implementation and evaluation of a POCUS-Olympics faculty development session.* Annual meetings of the American College of Physicians, April 2025 and Society of Hospital Medicine Converge, April 2025, Las Vegas, NV.
- **Chebly K, Hernández E, Janjigian M.** *International Point of Care Ultrasound training partnership: an initiative for equity in global medical education.* Oxford Global Health & Bioethics International Conference, July 2024, Oxford, UK.



# Program for Medical Education Innovations and Research

NYU Langone’s [Program for Medical Education Innovations and Research \(PrMEIR\)](#) brings together a community of practice, consisting of highly skilled clinicians, educators, psychologists, and biostatisticians to stimulate innovation and research on education of physicians and other healthcare professionals. Established in 2006 as part of the DGIMCI, the program’s mission is to advance medical education scholarship and institute best practices to support patient-centered, evidence-based medical education. Our curricular innovations, faculty development programs and research projects strengthen the link between healthcare professional training and patient health outcomes and wellbeing.



**Sondra Zabar, MD**  
Professor, Department of Medicine at NYU Grossman School of Medicine  
Director, Division of General Internal Medicine and Clinical Innovation  
Director, Standardized Patient Program  
Director, PrMEIR



**Colleen Gillespie, PhD**  
Associate Professor, Department of Medicine at NYU Grossman School of Medicine  
Director, Division of Education Quality, Institute for Innovations in Medical Education  
Director of Evaluation, PrMEIR



**Lisa Altshuler, PhD**  
Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine at NYU Grossman School of Medicine  
Associate Director, Evaluation and Assessment, PrMEIR

# Research on Medical Education Outcomes (ROMEO) Unit

## Developing the Educationally Sensitive Patient Outcome (ESPO) Theoretical Model 2.0

ROMEO is an interdisciplinary team of doctors, nurses, researchers, educators, and psychologists who conduct research on medical education outcomes with the goal of linking strategies for medical education and training to patient health outcomes. This rich interdisciplinary collaboration has resulted in the development of the Educationally Sensitive Patient Outcome (ESPO) Theoretical Model. ESPOs, first introduced by NYUGSOM researchers in 2010, represent a transformative approach to evaluating the impact of medical education on patient care. They suggested that medical education would benefit from defining ESPOs as an essential step in evaluating the effectiveness of medical education and training programs. One such ESPO, patient activation – the concept of activating patients to be fully informed, engaged, and collaborative partners in care - they propose would be particularly sensitive to education and strongly associated with patient outcomes in the ambulatory/outpatient setting. In addition, clinical microsystem activation is another ESPO candidate, foreseeing recent appreciation for health systems science as a key competency for health professionals. Recent advancements, including Resident Sensitive Quality Measures (RSQMs) developed by Schumacher and colleagues and TRainee Attributable & Automatable Care Evaluations in Real-time (TRACERs) developed by Burk-Rafel and colleagues, have expanded the toolkit for assessing trainee impact including the use of real-time, scalable data from electronic health records.

In 2025, the ROMEO research collaborative reignited efforts to refine and chart a course for re-invigorating a focus on ESPOs given the tremendous growth in competency-based assessment, EHR and other practice, administrative and billing data, national quality metrics, and analytic methods.

Five interdisciplinary working groups were established:

- **Literature Update:** Focusing on updating and summarizing ESPOs-relevant work (Led by Caitlin Plovnick and Lilly Martin)
- **Clinical Learning Environment Exploration:** Investigating ways of capturing how the clinical learning environment influences ESPOs (e.g., models of precepting, support for self-directed and master adaptive learning, etc) (Led by Lisa Altshuler, Barbara Porter, and Gabrielle Mayer)
- **Machine Learning Models:** Inventorying available data and using classification methods to work backwards from those data to identify ESPOs (Led by Jung Kim and Jesse Burk-Rafel)
- **Harnessing Power of USP Visits:** Creating multi-dimensional quality of care measures from USP visits as an interim ESPO reflecting core OSCE-assessed skills in real-world practice and linkable to outpatient outcomes (Led by Sondra Zabar, Colleen Gillespie, Christian Torres, and Kevin Chen)
- **Developing New ESPO Assessments:** Based on the findings and recommendations of the other working groups, this group will suggest new ESPO measures

These groups have been working together to define initial high-yield research studies that are expected to contribute to the development of new ESPOs that are more precise, more directly associated with specific educational efforts and models of learning, more attributable to learners, and more accessible. Their work promises to deepen our understanding of how education influences care and to create feedback mechanisms that enhance both learner development and patient outcomes. **The Program in Medical Education Innovation and Research Grants** are furthering this work through its recent call for and selection of grant applications to identify and/or design new ESPOs. As this field evolves, ESPOs stand poised to become a cornerstone of evidence-based medical education research with broad implications for healthcare quality and system improvement.

# ROMEO Core Members

## Jennifer Adams, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Medicine  
Director, Primary Care Internal Medicine Residency Program  
Frankfort Family Director, Center for Empathy

## Joanne Agnant, MD

Clinical Associate Professor, Ronald O. Perelman Department of Emergency Medicine and Department of Pediatrics  
Associate Program Director, Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellowship  
Associate Medical Director, New York Simulation Center (NYSIM)

## Tavinder Ark, PhD

Director, Data Science Lab, Kern Institute, Medical College of Wisconsin

## Lynn Buckvar-Keltz, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Medicine  
Associate Chair for Professional Development, Department of Medicine  
Medical Director, WISE-OnCall Program  
Director, Violet Society Program for Medical Student Advising

## Kelly Crotty, MD, MPH, MHPE

Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Medicine

## Anne Dembitzer, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine  
Director, Education for Educators

## Cristina Gonzalez, MD

Professor, Departments of Medicine and Population Health  
Co-Director (Medical Education), Beyond Bridges  
Associate Director, Medical Education, IEHE

## Richard Greene, MD, MHPE

Professor, Department of Medicine  
Associate Director, Primary Care Internal Medicine Residency Program  
Director, Health Disparities Education

## Kathleen Hanley, MD

Professor, Department of Medicine  
Associate Director, Primary Care Internal Medicine Residency Program  
Curriculum Director, Substance Abuse Research Education and Training

## Rachael Hayes, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine  
Director, Internal Medicine Residency Program, Family Health Centers at NYU Langone

## Melanie Jay, MD, MS

Professor, Departments of Medicine and Population Health  
Director, Research Collaboration and Mentoring  
Program Director, General Internal Medicine Fellowship  
Director, NYU Langone Comprehensive Program on Obesity

## Adina Kalet MD, MPH

Adjunct Professor, Department of Medicine

## So-Young Oh, MA, MS

Director, Division of Digital Learning, Institute for Innovations in Medical Education (IIME)

## Cynthia Osman, MD

Clinical Professor, Department of Pediatrics

## Caroline Paul, MD

Associate Dean  
University of Kentucky  
College of Medicine-Bowling Green Campus

## Laura Penalo, PhD, RN, CNL, CHSE

Health Professions Director, NYSIM

## Jesse B. Rafel, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine  
Director, Research, IIME

## Daniel Sartori, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine  
Director, Precision Medicine Education, Department of Medicine  
Director, NYU Brooklyn Residency Track  
Associate Director, Internal Medicine Residency Program, NYU Langone Hospital—Brooklyn

## Verity Schaye, MD, MPHE

Associate Professor, Department of Medicine  
Assistant Dean for Education in the Clinical Sciences  
Assistant Director, Curricular Innovation in Medical Innovation



**Allison Squires, PhD, RN**  
Associate Professor, NYU Rory Meyers College of Nursing  
Research Associate Professor, Department of Medicine

**Linda Tewksbury, MD**  
Clinical Professor, Department of Pediatrics

**Abigail Winkel, MD, MHPE**  
Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Assistant Director, Education Scholarship, IIME  
Assistant Director, MHPE Program  
Vice Chair, Education for Obstetrics and Gynecology

**Shonna Yin, MD**  
Associate Professor, Departments of Pediatrics and  
Population Health

**Selected Presentations**

- **Zhang S, Hardowar K, Torres C, Kristal R, Reich H, Hanley K, Chen K, Gillespie C, Wallach A, Zabar S.** *OSCEs and outcomes: linking internal medicine residents' educational data to clinical performance via the electronic health record.* Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025.
- **Gillespie C, Altshuler L, Hanley K, Wilhite J, Hardowar K, Beltran C, Zabar S.** *Does communication skill performance in a medical school OSCE predict residency program directors' assessments of these learners as interns? And do these residency program directors' assessments of interns, in turn, predict their communication skill performance as PGY2 residents?* Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025.

**PrMEIR Innovation Grants**

Each year, PrMEIR awards funds to individuals with promising impact on medical education. This year the proposals were aimed at advancing medical education by focusing on Educationally Sensitive Patient Outcomes (ESPOs). These grants seek to support projects that explore ESPOs in medical training to improve both educational practices and patient care. By focusing on ESPOs, this initiative aims to bridge the gap between medical education and patient care, ensuring that training programs produce healthcare professionals capable of delivering high-quality outcomes. We had ten submissions from across the NYUGSOM and funded four projects.

**The Murray J. Berenson, MD Grant in Medical Education Research Sponsored Projects:**

Developing a Stakeholder-Informed Framework for Educationally Sensitive and Automatable Outcomes in Resident Continuity Clinic (Fully Funded Project)  
PI: **Dr. Rachael Hayes**; Co-PIs: **Drs. Victoria Twito, Arielle Elmaleh-Sachs, Daniel Sartori**  
Department of Medicine

Enhancing Family and Interdisciplinary Communication during Pediatric Rapid Response Activations with a Novel Simulation Curriculum (Pilot Project)  
PI: **Dr. Ami Shah**  
Department of Pediatrics

**The Anthony J. Grieco, MD Grant in Medical Education Research Sponsored Projects:**

Improving Quality of Stroke Care Through Simulation-Based Education and Standardized Checklists at Tamale Teaching Hospital (TTH) (Pilot Project)  
PI: **Dr. Amanda Klinger**; Co-PI: **Dr. Valentine Akwulpwa**  
Department of Medicine

Bridging the Gap: Simulation-Based Education for Safer Emergency Department Discharges (Pilot Project)  
PI: **Dr. Jessica Strauss**; Co-PIs: **Drs. Stacey Frisch, Nicholas Genes, Zoe Grabinski, Catherine Jamin, Anne Levine, Silas Smith, Laura Weber, Selin Sagalowsky**  
Department of Emergency Medicine



**PrMEIR Scholars Summer Intensive Program**

Now in its 9th year, the PrMEIR Scholars Summer Intensive Program (PSSIP) is an 8-week program providing students with advanced research experience and facilitating professional development through a weekly series of workshops with the goal of furnishing a wealth of knowledge about the variety of routes for a career in the healthcare industry. Five to eight Scholars who are accepted into the program traditionally work with the PrMEIR team on a number of projects while contributing to the advancement of research, operations, and data initiatives. Scholars engaging in research projects have contributed to the development of several dissemination efforts, including abstracts and manuscripts that compared USP visit data with real patient surveys, systematic reviews of the literature, comparisons of USP and OSCE cases, and analyses of professional identity formation.

# Scholarship Exchange Corner

In the Fall of 2024, we launched a new feature in our DGIMCI Weekly newsletter to create an environment of inquiry and foster exploration into what scholarship means in general internal medicine.

The monthly column featured interviews with faculty who are pursuing different types of scholarship as well as helpful resources to engage faculty with research and other forms of scholarship. At the end of the year, we created a shared online collection of resources and joined together for a celebration of DGIMCI scholarship featuring panel presentations by several faculty and created a shared online collection of resources.

## Bridging Knowledge and Practice in GIM: How NYU DGIMCI is Driving Change

Celebrating scholarship and 20 years of DGIMCI

### INTRODUCTORY REMARKS



**Sondra Zabar, MD**  
Professor of Medicine  
Director, Division of General Internal Medicine and Clinical Innovation  
Director, Standardized Patient Program (NYSIM)  
Director, Program for Medical Education Innovations and Research (PrMEIR)

### PANEL PRESENTATION

Moderator



**Andrew Wallach, MD, FACP**  
Professor of Medicine  
Associate Director, Clinical Innovations and Clinical Affairs  
Division of General Internal Medicine and Clinical Innovation  
Ambulatory Care Chief, NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue  
Ambulatory Care Chief Medical Officer, NYC Health + Hospitals

Panel



**Elaine De Leon, MD, MHS**  
Assistant Professor of Medicine and Population Health  
Family Health Centers at NYU Langone



**Mat Kladney, MD**  
Assistant Professor of Medicine  
NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue



**Kathleen Hanley, MD**  
Professor of Medicine  
Associate Director, Department of Medicine, NYC Health + Hospitals/Gouverneur Health  
Curriculum Director, Substance Abuse Research Education and Training Program (SARET)  
Associate Director, Primary Care Residency Program



**Verity Schaye, MD, MHPE**  
Associate Professor of Medicine  
Assistant Dean, Education in the Clinical Sciences  
Assistant Director, Curricular Innovation in Medical Education, IIME



**I learned working alone was a barrier, by caring and having tremendous passion- it attracts like-minded colleagues who are all in.**

**Natalie Levy, MD**  
Associate Professor of Medicine  
Director, Primary Care Diabetes Program  
Adult Primary Care Clinic, Bellevue Hospital



**Quality improvement is a great starting point for anyone who wants to get involved in larger health systems questions.**

**Arielle Elmaleh-Sachs, MD**  
Assistant Professor of Medicine & Population Health  
Medical Director, Sunset Park Family Health Center (Adult Medicine and Specialty)



**I piloted ideas, evaluated the curricula, and kept focused on making a difference in patient outcomes.**

**Cristina Gonzalez, MD, MEd**  
Professor of Medicine and Population Health  
Associate Director, Institute for Excellence in Health Equity

# Advanced Training and Professional Development Programs

## General Internal Medicine Fellowship

Directed by **Melanie Jay, MD, MS**

The [general internal medicine fellowship](#) supports physicians committed to careers in academic general medicine with research focused on improving the quality, safety, equity, and effectiveness of care in our communities. In addition to independent clinical work, this two-year fellowship includes tuition support for a master’s in clinical investigation (MSCI) or a master’s in health professions education (MHPE).



**Caroline McNaughton, MD**, graduated from the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine and completed her residency at Montefiore Moses-Weiler. She is a primary care physician at NYU Langone’s Internal Medicine Associates. Dr. McNaughton is earning an MSCI while conducting research in dissemination and implementation science. Her projects include using prior low-dose screening CT scans as opportunistic imaging to detect coronary atherosclerosis, body composition changes, and osteoporosis. She also is involved in a systematic review of wearable activity monitors to assess their effectiveness in increasing physical activity in adults, reflecting her interest in obesity medicine.

- **Caroline McNaughton**, Carl Hashem, **Melanie Jay**, Daniel Sterman, Jorge Mercado, Abraham Chachoua, Miriam Bredella, Jeffrey Berger. *Opportunistic analysis of coronary artery calcifications in screening low-dose CT scans and prevalence of preventive pharmacotherapy*. Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025.
- **McNaughton C, Jay M**, Hiemstra M, Reddy M, Ratanshi N, Salmani B, Mitchell M, **Orstad S**. *Activity monitoring on physical activity in adults with obesity-associated diseases: umbrella review*. Obesity Society, Obesity Week, November 2024, San Antonio, TX.



**Gabrielle Mayer, MD**, is a general internist physician at Gouverneur Health and a graduate of NYU Grossman School of Medicine, where she also completed her Primary Care Internal Medicine residency and served as chief resident. She is a faculty lead for NYUGSOM’s Queer Mentorship and Advising Program (QMAP), and the founder and host of Queer Health Podcast, an established show with nearly 30 episodes dedicated to LGBTQ+ health. Dr. Mayer’s research focuses on improving care for LGBTQ+ communities, with particular attention to the health needs of LBQ+ women. She was awarded the TULA Life Inc DIMOND Health Equity Research Fellowship in support of this work. As a current General Internal Medicine fellow, she is pursuing a Master’s in Health Professions Education with a focus on education and learning in primary care settings.

- **Gabrielle Mayer, Richard Greene**, Jessica Halem. *LBQ+ (lesbian, bisexual, and queer) women’s health for the internist. Women’s health, sex, and gender-informed medicine*. Workshop, Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025.
- **Gabrielle Mayer**, Christopher Terndrup, Shana Zucker, Steven Allon. *harnessing artificial intelligence to combat, not reinforce, LGBTQ+ stereotypes in medical education*. Medical Education and Scholarship Workshop, Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025.



Addiction Medicine Fellowship

Directed by **Joshua Lee, MD**, and Associate Program Director **Diana Lee, MD**

The ACGME-accredited and HRSA-funded [addiction medicine fellowship](#) trains three fellows per year, with the intention of placing them in medically underserved communities. The 12-month fellowship includes multiple rotations in community clinics, inpatient, and emergency settings at NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue, NYC Health + Hospitals/Gotham Health, Gouverneur, and the FHCs at NYU Langone.

Funded by Heath Resources and Services Administration, 7/1/2025 –6/30/2030; \$3,000,000.

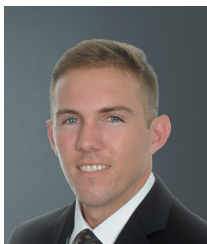
2025-2027 Fellows are:



Zoe Adams, MD, MA



Hannah Beaman, MD



Noah Lessing, MD

Multidisciplinary Addiction Training (MAT) Program

Directed by **Joshua Lee, MD**

[The multidisciplinary addiction training program \(MAT\)](#) provides a one-year addiction clinical curriculum for interested allied health learners. Learners participate in addiction didactics and clinical training alongside three addiction medicine fellows at NYU Grossman School of Medicine. There are two tracks:

- MAT Scholars (35) are current students dedicating up to 10 hours a month pursuing addiction training.
- MAT Fellows (6) are postgraduate allied health professionals (e.g., nursing, social work, therapists) who train and work with us full-time across NYU Langone and affiliated healthcare institutions, with the possibility of certification in addiction advanced practice depending on discipline.

Funded by the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports (6/1/2025–6/30/2026, \$750,000) and a Health Resources and Services Administration supplement (7/1/2023–6/30/2026; \$37,104)

- **Grigg J, Mullins K, Rosen T.** *A Multidisciplinary Addiction Training Program (MAT): feasibility and initial outcomes.* Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025.

Merrin Master Clinician Fellowship

Co-directed by **Mitchell Charap, MD**, and **Michael Janjigian, MD**

The [Merrin Master Clinician Fellowship](#), established with generous contributions from the Merrin and Martinsen families, is a two-year program for physician-educators who are recognized for their potential as inspiring teachers. The fellowship aims to improve the quality of clinical teaching and the delivery of patient-centered care. Fellows work with leaders in the field of medical education and receive an annual stipend for professional development.



Ravi Kesari, MD

Recognizing the health inequities faced by historically underserved populations—including those marginalized by race, language, sexual orientation, gender identity, and socioeconomic status—Dr. Kesari is developing a curriculum for hospitalists across NYU Langone. This initiative is designed to enhance clinicians’ ability to communicate effectively, sensitively, and with cultural competence when caring for patients impacted by structural determinants of health (SDoH), such as food, housing, and transportation insecurity. The curriculum will highlight the intersectionality of marginalization and SDoH-related risk, with the overarching goal of improving health outcomes, fostering trust, and advancing a more equitable healthcare delivery system. During his first year, Dr. Kesari has delivered Grand Rounds presentations for the NYU Institute for Excellence in Health Equity and Division of Hospital Medicine and the Society of Hospital Medicine NYC/Westchester Chapter on “Epigenetics and the Perpetuation of Healthcare Disparities.”



Jessica Tanenbaum, MD

As a clinician in the Bellevue adult primary care A1c clinic, Dr. Tanenbaum works closely with people living with type 2 diabetes to improve their glycemic management, overall health, and quality of life. As a Merrin Fellow, she will deepen her knowledge to become a resource to colleagues on integrating diabetes technology, use of newer medications, and psychosocial awareness of comprehensive diabetes care. At April's national meeting of the Society of General Internal Medicine, she co-delivered a workshop with Dr. Natalie Levy, her Merrin mentor, about getting patients started on Continuous Glucose Monitors (CGM) in safety-

net settings. She also presented a poster in June at the national American Diabetes Association meeting about a pilot program at Bellevue providing CGM access to uninsured patients through NYC Care, a New York City healthcare access program.

- **Natalie Levy, Jessica Tanenbaum.** *CGMs for true beginners: how to start using CGMs in an academic, safety-net, general medicine practice.* Clinical Skills Workshop, Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, Hollywood, FL, May 2025.



### Gelman Family Distinguished Scholar Program

The purpose of the 2-year Gelman Family Distinguished Scholar Program is to encourage and develop physicians who are interested in becoming expert educators in a project that will contribute to the training of internal medicine residents and NYUGSOM medical students. The goals of the Program are to improve graduate medical education (GME) and undergraduate medical education (UME) training, develop programs that foster careers for trainees in internal medicine and contribute to educational scholarship through presentations and publications.

**Nilima Shet, MD** – inaugural Gelman Family Scholar

### Master of Health Professions Education (MHPE)

Co-Directed by **David Stern, MD**; Adina Kalet, MD

Core faculty: Abigail Winkel, MD, MHPE; **Sondra Zabar, MD**; **Colleen Gillespie, PhD**; **Richard Greene, MD, MHPE**; **Alison Squires, PhD, RN**; **Kinga Elias, PhD**; Simon Jones, PhD

NYU Langone's Department of Medicine began offering an [MHPE](#) in 2015. To date, 35 candidates have graduated, equipped with the knowledge and skills to design high-quality educational programs for healthcare professionals. Learners conduct high-impact, rigorous research and apply educational theories, including student-centered learning, to solve problems within their individual professional environment. The two-year, part-time MHPE program combines campus-based and distance-learning activities in collaboration with the School of Health Professions Education at Maastricht University in the Netherlands and four international sites in Canada, Egypt, and Singapore. DGIMCI current learners include **Rachael Hayes, MD**, **Daniel Sartori, MD**, **Gabrielle Mayer, MD (GIM Fellow)** and **Nilima Shet, MD (Gelman Family Scholar)**.

### Strategic Teamwork for Effective Practice–Mentor Development Program (STEP-MDP)

Directed by **Sondra Zabar, MD**, and **Lisa Altshuler, PhD**

[STEP-MDP](#) mentors research staff to become leaders of dynamic teams, offering skills for team performance, growth, and productivity. Workshops cover communication, delegation, relationships, and leadership through mentorship. Since 2016, 13 cohorts with 210 participants from various departments have undergone the program. Survey results indicate 95 percent found STEP-MDP useful, improving communication, leadership, motivation, coaching, and community skills. These gains were sustained at the six-month follow-up.

Funder: NYU Clinical & Translational Science Institute

## Faculty Promotions and Accomplishments

**Pamela Boodram, MD** – appointed as Associate Clerkship Director for Ambulatory Care

**Kelly Crotty, MD, MPH, MHPE** – promoted to Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine

**Isaac Dapkins, MD, FAAP, AAHIVS** - elected as the clinical chair of the Community Health Care Association of New York, the New York State Primary Care Association

**Ann Garment, MD** – received Department of Medicine, Outpatient Teacher of the Year

**Richard Greene, MD, MHPE** – received Department of Medicine, Faculty Education Mentor of the Year

**Vivian Hayashi, MD** – appointed Assistant Chief of Primary Care, VA NY Harbor Health Care System

**Hannah Jackson, MD, MPH** – promoted to Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine

**Michael Janjigian, MD** – selected to the Society of Hospital Medicine POCUS Special Interest Group Executive Council

**Natalie Levy, MD** – Chair, Planning Committee for Diabetes Day with NYC H+H and Los Angeles County Dept of Health Services), and lecture on MITI GLP

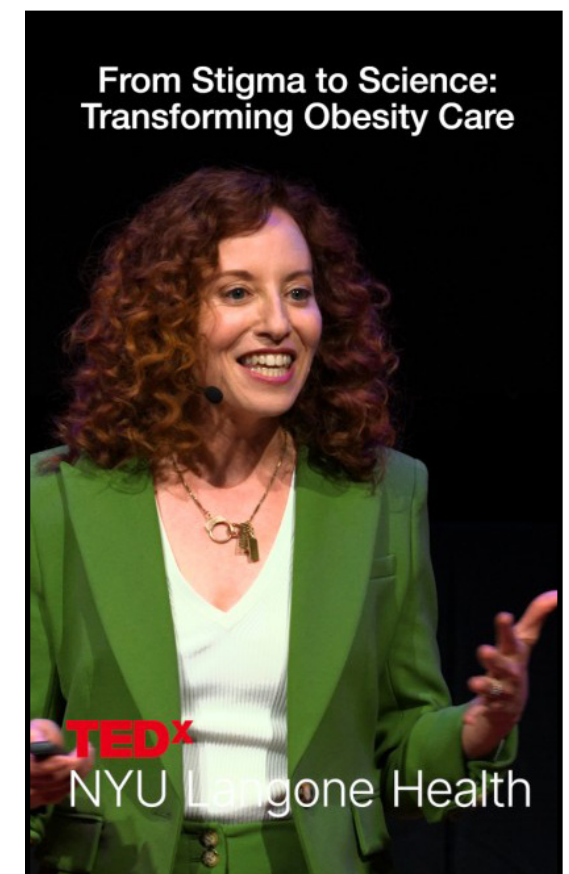
**Michelle McMacken, MD** – selected as a 2025 Trailblazer in Healthcare by New York State; Keynote speaker, Diabetes Day with NYC H+H and Los Angeles County Dept of Health Services

**Robert Pitts, MD, MPH** – Promoted to Associate Professor of Medicine

**Robert Pitts, MD, MPH** and **Charles Yee, BSN, AMB-BC** – received the AACN-Gold Interprofessional Humanism in Healthcare Award

**Michael Tanner, MD, FACP** – received the Anthony J. Greico Distinguished Teaching Award in the Department of Medicine.

**Craig Tenner, MD, FACP, FAMIA** – promoted to Professor of Medicine



**Melanie Jay, MD, MS** – promoted to Professor of Medicine and Population Health; Presented What is the future of obesity care? at TedxNYU Langone Health and was chosen as a Tedx Editor's pick



DGIMCI Leadership and Clinical Sites



Sondra R. Zabar, MD

Professor, Department of Medicine  
Director, Division of General Internal Medicine and Clinical Innovation  
Director, Standardized Patient Program



Ann R. Garment, MD

Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Medicine  
Section Chief, Division of General Internal Medicine and Clinical Innovation, NYC Health + Hospitals/ Bellevue  
Medical Director, Primary Care Addiction Medicine Clinic, NYC Health + Hospitals/ Bellevue



Julia Adamian, MD

Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Medicine  
Medical Director, NYU Langone Internal Medical Associates  
Section Chief, Division of General Internal Medicine and Clinical Innovation, Tisch Hospital  
Senior Medical Director, Department of Medicine FGPs  
Director, Ambulatory Care Primary Care, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens



Kathleen Hanley, MD

Professor, Department of Medicine  
Associate Director, Primary Care Internal Medicine Residency Program  
Associate Director, Department of Medicine  
NYC Health + Hospitals/ Gotham Health Gouverneur



Jennifer G. Adams, MD

Associate Professor, Department of Medicine  
Director, Primary Care  
Internal Medicine Residency Program  
Frankfort Family Director,  
Center for Empathy in Medicine



Melanie Jay, MD, MS

Professor, Departments of Medicine and w  
Population Health  
Director, Research Collaboration and Mentoring,  
Division of General Internal Medicine and Clinical Innovation  
Program Director, General Internal Medicine Fellowship  
Director, NYU Langone Comprehensive Program on Obesity



Kelly Crotty, MD, MHPE, MPH

Clinical Associate Professor,  
Department of Medicine  
Chief of Primary Care, Medical Service  
Section Chief, Division of General Internal Medicine and Clinical Innovation, VA New York Harbor Health Care System, Manhattan



James A. Schmidtberger, MD

Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine  
Director, Department of Medicine, NYC Health + Hospitals/ Gotham Health Gouverneur



Isaac Dapkins, MD

Clinical Associate Professor, Departments of  
Population Health and Medicine  
Chief Medical Officer,  
Family Health Centers at  
NYU Langone



Andrew B. Wallach, MD, FACP

Professor, Department of Medicine  
Associate Director, Clinical Innovations and Clinical Affairs, Division of General Internal Medicine and Clinical Innovation  
Ambulatory Care Chief Medical Officer,  
NYC Health + Hospitals Office of Ambulatory Care  
Clinical Director, Ambulatory Care,  
NYC Health + Hospitals/ Bellevue

DGIMCI Administration Team

Lauren Soneira, MPA, Division Administrator  
Deborah Cooke, MS  
Emmanuella DeJesus, MHA  
Renee Heller  
Heather Levitt, MHS

PrMEIR Team

Jeffrey Wilhite, PhD, MPH, Program Manager  
Christine Beltran, MEd  
Khemraj Hardowar  
Abigail Henderson  
Penelope Lusk, MS  
Shriya Nallamaddi, MS  
Cole Schwartz, MS  
Elisabeth Wargo



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