

INSIDE *Medicine*

March 2021

The Newsletter of the Department of Medicine

Vote Early and Vote Often

A message from the chair, Steve Abramson

It is *US News* voting season again and we urge all specialty faculty to vote on Doximity. We realize that the rankings are easy to dismiss as not representative of who we are. Like most institutions we ignore them when we don't do well and we promote them when we do. What is the *reality* behind the ranking? There are at least two: reputation and measured quality of care.

NYU has moved from 34 to top ten over the past decade largely on the basis of the objective metrics that report quality of care. Namely, 70% of the rank is calculated based on objective measures, including survival rates, designated clinical outcomes, patient safety, nursing, and advanced technologies. Reputation, however, contributes 25-30% of the final score—and reputation doesn't move easily, often following the halo effect of a prestigious parent university.

Nevertheless, there is a virtuous cycle whereby an increased *US News* rank should enhance reputation, which makes NYU more attractive in the recruitment of the best talent, whether at the faculty, trainee, or student level. So, as distasteful as we might find this competition, it is an opportunity to see how we match up against our peers and each year build upon our strengths at all levels for the future.

Thus, there is a third reality behind the *US News* rank: the external perception of our institution to colleagues and applicants. While we can't use the vaunted Chicago approach to "*vote early and vote often*," we do encourage everyone to vote, so that the outstanding care we provide achieves its due recognition.

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USNWR Best Hospitals - Please Vote Now

U.S. News & World Report's "Best Hospitals" reputation survey voting season is now live: voting should be open to all eligible physicians. Please be on the lookout for an email from Doximity, as well as for a "Submit Your Nominations" banner to appear on the [Doximity website](#) allowing you to vote.

Reputation survey scores significantly impact NYU Langone's specialty rankings and our institution's position on *U.S. News'* "Best Hospitals" Honor Roll. In turn, these rankings can dramatically enhance our visibility and reputation among potential patients, medical students, and referring physicians. We will be expecting 100% participation from faculty who are eligible to vote.

If you are not yet a member of Doximity, follow these steps to join:

- Go to www.Doximity.com and enter your name on the homepage. You will need to create a profile if your name does not appear.

The Doximity logo features the word "doximity" in a lowercase, sans-serif font. To the left of the text is a blue icon consisting of three curved lines that suggest a signal or network.

- After getting into your profile, edit the information for accuracy. Please be aware that this information will appear on *US News & World Reports's* online physician directory.



An Interview With Renee Williams, MD, Associate Chair for Health Equity

Renee Williams, MD, MHPE, recently appointed as Associate Chair and the inaugural Director of the *Saul J. Farber Program in Health Equity*, will spearhead the Department of Medicine's efforts to address health disparities and develop programs that promote research and mentorship. Dr. Williams will work with department leadership to build upon the foundations of the DIMOND program, and work collaboratively with the NYU Office of Diversity Affairs, under Dr. Joe Ravenell, and the Institute for Excellence in Health Equity (IEHE), under Dr. Gbenga Ogedegbe, where Dr. Williams has been named Director of Graduate Medical Education (GME).

[Read an interview with Dr. Williams](#) about the goals and objectives of the program, and how she envisions its role in strengthening the culture of diversity and health equity among our physicians and trainees.



The Historian Is In: Race and Medicine at Bellevue a Century Ago

Distinguished Black physicians who graduated from NYU School of Medicine include Drs. May Edward Chinn and Aubre de Lambert Maynard, Class of 1926. What is less well known is that both Drs. Chinn and Maynard were rejected for internships at Bellevue Hospital in that same year, despite being near the top of their medical school class.

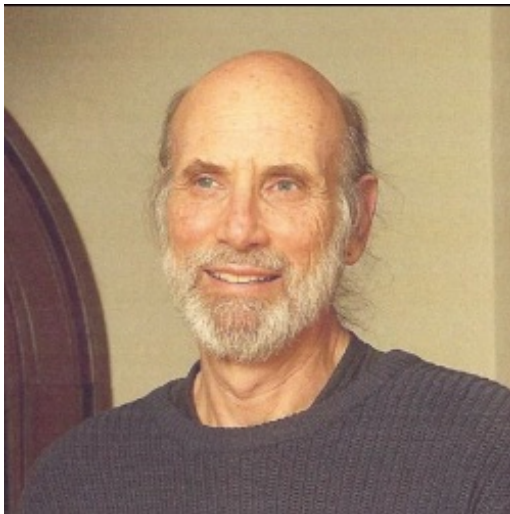
[Continue reading](#)



Vaccine Corner

Anna Bershteyn, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Population Health, answers the question: "Several months down the line, when more data become available about the use of the first vaccines, what information will be of most interest to you, and why?" and David Oshinsky, PhD, weighs in on vaccine hesitancy during the COVID-19 vaccine roll-out.

[Continue reading](#)



The Advisor Is In: Medical Writing/Fiction

"All medical students and doctors pass the test of having non-fiction brains," writes Dr. Samuel Shem. "To write fiction you need a fiction brain...." Shem advises on how to tap your creativity and why our experiences as physicians are a great foundation for fiction.

[Continue reading](#)



Student Essay: "Beneath My Mask"

"Reflecting on my experiences in the hospital thus far, I have realized that medicine is largely a series of juxtapositions. Birth and death. Pain and comfort. Joy and sadness..."

Emily Mills, winner of the Clerkship Award for Outstanding Essay in Medical Humanism, explores how the now-ubiquitous face mask can create a mix of feelings, from resentment to safety.

[Read the essay](#)

NEWS & AWARDS

Empire Whole Health Heroes Recognizes Medicine Faculty in the Fight Against COVID-19

Empire BlueCross BlueShield recently recognized 50 Whole Health Heroes, including **Katherine Hochman, MD**, and **Patrick Cocks, MD**, for displaying "extraordinary

leadership, dedication, empathy, and remarkable compassion to help ensure the safety and wellness of all New Yorkers during this unprecedented crisis." Click on Dr. Hochman's and Dr. Cocks' photos in the [Whole Health Heroes feature](#) to read more about their contributions.



Residents & Fellows Selected for the Gold Humanism Honor Society

Each year a new group of residents and fellows at NYU Langone Health is selected to join the Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS), which recognizes members of our community who are exemplars of compassionate patient care and serve as role models in medicine.

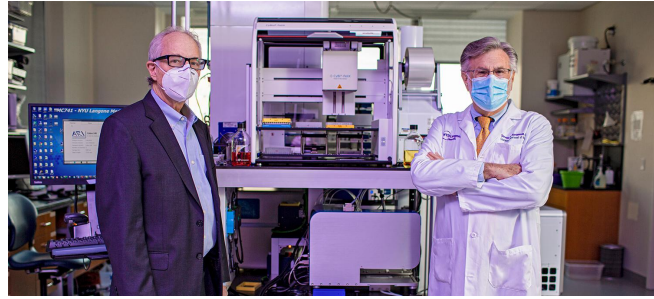
Congratulations to the following residents & fellows from the Department of Medicine, who are among this year's inductees:

- **Erin Bresnahan**, Resident, Internal Medicine
- **Himanshu Deshwal**, Fellow, Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine
- **Annette Georgia**, Fellow, Hospice and Palliative Medicine
- **Morris Jrada**, Chief Resident, Internal Medicine
- **Sienna Kurland**, Resident, Internal Medicine
- **Tiffany Lee**, Fellow, Geriatrics
- **Jordan Scher**, Resident, Internal Medicine
- **B. Corbett Walsh**, Fellow, Pulmonary, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine

An induction ceremony will be held virtually on Wednesday, April 7th at 7pm. Zoom details will be forthcoming. (Please also feel free to reach out to stacy.bodziak@nyulangone.org to request the link.)

Recent Research and Grant News

Based on intriguing findings about how certain gene variants may influence osteoarthritis risk and severity, a new National Institutes of Health (NIH) research grant will help **Steven Abramson, MD**, and



collaborators seek out IL-1–related targets for inflammatory disease prevention and treatment. (Pictured are Dr. Abramson, at right, with Jef D. Boeke, PhD, professor of biochemistry and molecular pharmacology and director of the Institute for Systems Genetics.) [Learn more.](#)

The ISCHEMIA trial main results publication was named by the *New England Journal of Medicine* as one of the [most notable studies published in 2020](#). It was one of 14 studies designated by the editors as being the most meaningful in changing medical practice and impacting patient care in 2020. ISCHEMIA, led by study chair **Judith Hochman, MD**, Harold Snyder Family Professor of Medicine and senior associate dean for clinical science, was also selected for the Clinical Research Forum 2021 Top 10 Clinical Research Achievement Awards, which honors outstanding accomplishments in clinical research.



A study led by co-senior authors **Ken H. Cadwell, PhD**, a member of the Skirball Institute of Biomolecular Medicine and associate professor in the Departments of Microbiology and Medicine at NYU Langone, and P'ng Loke,



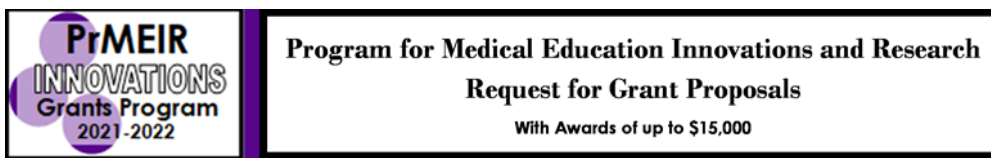
PhD, at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, found more than half of J-pouch patients develop inflammation similar to ulcerative colitis. **Jordan E. Axelrad, MD, MPH**, assistant professor in the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, served as co-lead author for the study, which was published in *Gastroenterology* in December. [Learn more.](#)

Mark Mulligan, MD, received an \$18M supplement from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) for the NYU Langone Vaccine Treatment and Evaluation Unit.

Bruce Cronstein, MD, received a \$40M Clinical and Translational Science Award from the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS).



PrMeir Innovations Grants Program: Call for Proposals



2021-2022 Theme: Taking Your Education Ideas to the Next Level: Using Instructional Design or Implementation Strategies to Enhance Impact

Letter of intent deadline: March 22

[Submit via Redcap here](#)

[Click here for more information](#) and see the [detailed call for submissions](#)

Upcoming CME Activities

14th Annual NYU Langone Clinical Research Methodology Course

March 17, 8:30am - 1:00pm

Course Directors: Yusuf Yazici, MD

Virtual Webinar ~ [Learn more](#)

NYU Langone Seminar In Advanced Rheumatology

March 18-20, 8:45am - 1:15pm

Course Directors: Steven Abramson, MD; Jill Buyon, MD; Bruce Cronstein, MD;

Michael Pillinger, MD

Virtual Webinar ~ [Learn more](#)

**Advanced Topics for Ultrasound in Rheumatology and Musculoskeletal
Medicine**

March 20, 12:35pm - 6:05pm

Course Directors: Jonathan Samuels, MD

Virtual Webinar ~ [Learn more](#)

Big Gut Seminars: Focus on Complex Inflammatory Bowel Disease

March 26, 7:35am - 3:30pm

Course Directors: David P. Hudesman, MD; Lisa B. Malter, MD; Feza Remzi, MD

Virtual Webinar ~ [Learn more](#)

We welcome your announcements of awards, honors, publications,
presentations, new programs, and events. Email us at
DOMcommunications@nyulangone.org.

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