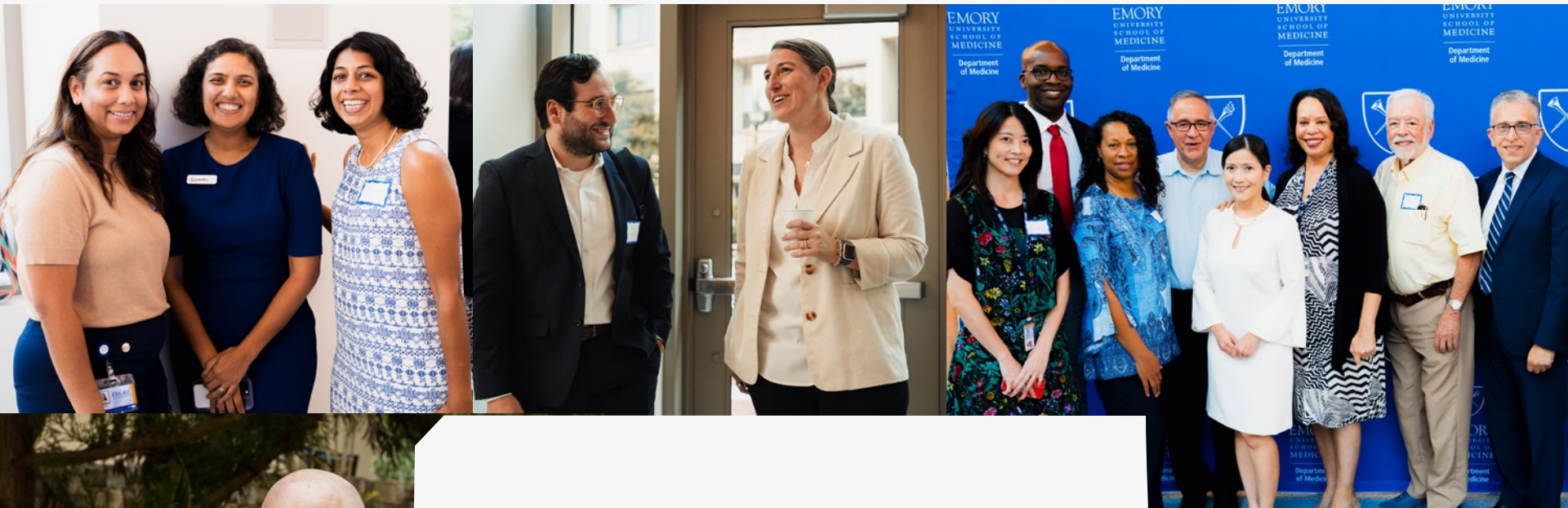




EMORY UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

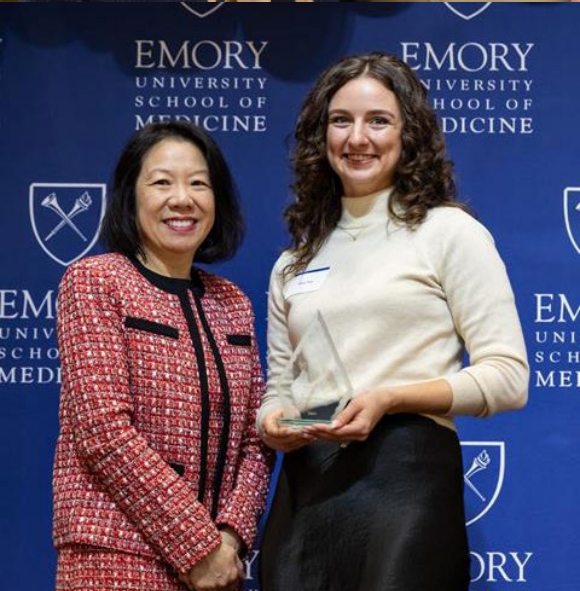
Alumni News

WINTER 2025



Familiar Faces in New Places:

Leading Us to Eminence



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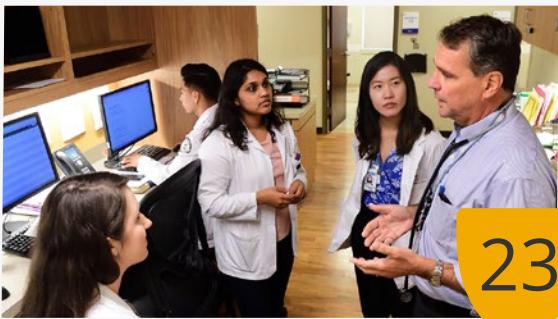
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Letter From the Chair



CARLOS DEL RIO, MD, MACP, FIDSA

Dear colleagues and alumni,

As I look back on my first year as Chair of the Department of Medicine, I recognize that it was full of challenges, and while challenges can bring obstacles, they also bring opportunities. This year has been difficult for many, but there is also much to celebrate. When I presented [the first Medicine Grand Rounds of the academic year this past September](#), I shared five great things that stood out among many wonderful moments over the past year.

- **Research awards for FY25 surpassed \$200M.** Our faculty submitted more grants and were awarded over \$215M this fiscal year, a 34% increase from FY24.
- **The number of DOM faculty increased from 870 to 923 over the past year.** The

divisions with the largest increases in faculty members over FY25 were Hospital Medicine (+19), Digestive Diseases (+12), Cardiology (+12), and Infectious Diseases (+7).

- **This academic year also marks the successful launch of the Combined Internal Medicine/Pediatrics Program**, which participated in residency match back in March. They filled all their available spots and welcomed their inaugural class of trainees this past July.
- **The Division of Renal Medicine celebrated the reopening of the Emory Dialysis Clinic Greenbriar.** This new convenient location offers state-of-the-art dialysis equipment and other patient-centered improvements.
- **The Division of General Internal Medicine will be expanding the Academic Internal Medicine Center** in transformative ways thanks to a generous gift from the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation and the Gary W. Rollins Foundation.

These five great things are just the beginning. As you will read in this newsletter, all ten divisions and each of our mission areas have achieved outstanding accomplishments this year. I am particularly pleased that we have appointed three of our Emory colleagues to leadership positions. Jada Bussey-Jones, MD, MACP, is now Division Director of General Internal Medicine, Janice Lea, MD, MSc, FASN, FASH, is Division Director of Renal Medicine, and Anandi N. Sheth, MD, MSc, FIDSA, is the Division Director of Infectious Diseases. All three are incredible leaders who will significantly enhance our missions.

I've been lucky enough to chat with many who have contributed to these achievements during my "Coffee with Carlos" tour across our department and on my [Chair Chats podcast](#) that started in January. I plan to talk with our three new division directors in a future edition of my podcast, and I encourage you to listen as we move into the second year. You will learn how we are celebrating our successes, embracing change, and promoting excellence in education, patient care, and clinical and basic research.



“Skate to where the puck is going, not where it has been.”

—Walter Gretzky

Just as Wayne Gretzky’s father, Walter Gretzky, once famously advised him to “Skate to where the puck is going, not where it has been,” I ask you all, how can we each embody that idea? I think we can start by considering the key recommendations from this year’s external review, the first review we’ve had in many years. Below are the six recommendations that came out of the external review and the strategies we plan to implement so we too can meet the puck where it is going, not where it has been.

- **To improve communication and transparency on funds flow between Emory Healthcare (EHC), the School of Medicine (SOM), and the DOM,** we will launch a financial transparency initiative. It will include town halls, visual dashboards, and clear messaging templates to better explain our budget decisions, including pauses in spending.
- **To streamline governance, structure, and site integration,** we will develop a unified framework with clearly defined roles, decision pathways, and integration points across all clinical and academic sites.
- **To better prioritize engagement and mitigate burnout,** we plan to invest in a wellness initiative to implement burnout prevention strategies, more recognition programs, and support for faculty and staff well-being across all mission areas and sites.
- **To strengthen leadership recruitment,** we will implement flexible and accelerated recruitment pathways for key leadership roles, including transitional support and clear authority for interim leaders.
- **To enhance a diverse research strategy,** we plan to organize a retreat and launch a strategic plan for research focused on diversification, improvement of clinical trials operations, identification of novel initiatives across divisions, and tap into new funding opportunities.
- **To build and enhance longitudinal faculty development and mentorship,** we will create a structured mentoring and development roadmap supported by a redefined Faculty Development Council and cross-site leadership.

Reimagining our path forward:

The throughline is clear: we cannot always know what’s ahead, but we know who we are.

I believe our department is ready for what comes next—not by changing who we are, but by growing stronger together. We are guided by our tripartite mission, built on science, strengthened by service, elevated by education, and all rooted in resilience. With grace, gratitude, and grit, we will continue to reimagine and create the future of medicine, side by side.

Sincerely,

Carlos del Rio, MD, MACP, FIDSA
Chair, Department of Medicine
H. Cliff Sauls Distinguished Professor of Medicine

“We cannot always know what’s ahead, but we know who we are.”

—Dr. del Rio



Congratulations to Our New Leaders

Many familiar faces are serving in new places!

This year brought many changes to the Department of Medicine, including welcoming new colleagues as well as elevating familiar faces into leadership roles. We look forward to seeing their leadership and expertise shape the department by promoting excellence in education, patient care, and clinical and basic research. Please join us in congratulating the following leaders on their new appointments!

New Division Directors



This past September, **Jada Bussey-Jones, MD, MACP**, Carter Smith Endowed Chair, Sr. Professor of Medicine, assumed the role of Director for the Division of General Internal Medicine, after Ted Johnson, MD, MPH, stepped down after 12 years as Division Director. Dr. Johnson will continue in a leadership role within the division as Director of the AIM Center. [Read the full announcement here.](#)

This past July, **Janice Lea, MD, MSc, FASN, FASH**, Professor of Medicine, was named Director of the Division of Renal Medicine. Dr. Lea served in the interim role when the past Division Director, Jeff Sands, MD, retired in January 2024. The department is thrilled to have her continue in this leadership capacity. [Read the full announcement here.](#)



Anandi N. Sheth, MD, MSc, FIDSA, Professor of Medicine, was named the new Director of the Division of Infectious Diseases, which became effective in September 2025. Before this appointment, Dr. Sheth served as the interim director, succeeding Wendy Armstrong, MD, who served as interim after the previous Division Director, Monica Farley, MD, retired in September of 2024. [Read the full announcement here.](#)

Office Of Education

In July 2025, **Jennifer Swails, MD, FACP**, Professor of Medicine in the Division of General Internal Medicine, was named Vice Chair for Education for the DOM. [Read the full announcement here.](#)





Academic Internal Medicine (AIM) Center

In August 2025, **Ted Johnson, MD, MPH**, Professor of Medicine in the Division of General Internal Medicine, was named the Director of the AIM Center. [Read the full announcement here.](#)



DOM Administration Team



Last December, **Brandon Darrington, MPH, MHA, CLSSGB, CCCM, FACHE**, assumed the role of Vice President for Internal Medicine/ Executive Administrator for Clinical Affairs and Administration. [Read the full announcement here.](#)

This past summer, **Zirka Smith, MPH, DrPH**, returned to the DOM as the Executive Administrator for Academic Affairs and Administration after John Sauer moved into a leadership role in the School of Medicine Dean’s Office. Zirka previously worked in the DOM as the Administrator for the Division of Infectious Diseases and the Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism, and Lipids. [Read the full announcement here.](#)



New Division Administrators



Jodi Salim, MPH, was named the Administrator for the Division of Infectious Diseases, effective August 2025. Jodi joined the DOM from the Infectious Diseases Clinical Research Consortium, where she served as the Administrative and Executive Director. [Read the announcement here.](#)

Emily Twa, MPH, stepped into the role of Administrator for the Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism, and Lipids, this past May. Emily joined the DOM in 2023 as the Senior Business Manager, where she supported clinic and academic activities at the division and department levels. [Read the full announcement here.](#)



Jason Van Galder, MHA, stepped into the role of Director of Operations for the Division of Hospital Medicine in August. Prior to this role, he served as the Administrator for the Division of Rheumatology. [Read the full announcement here.](#)

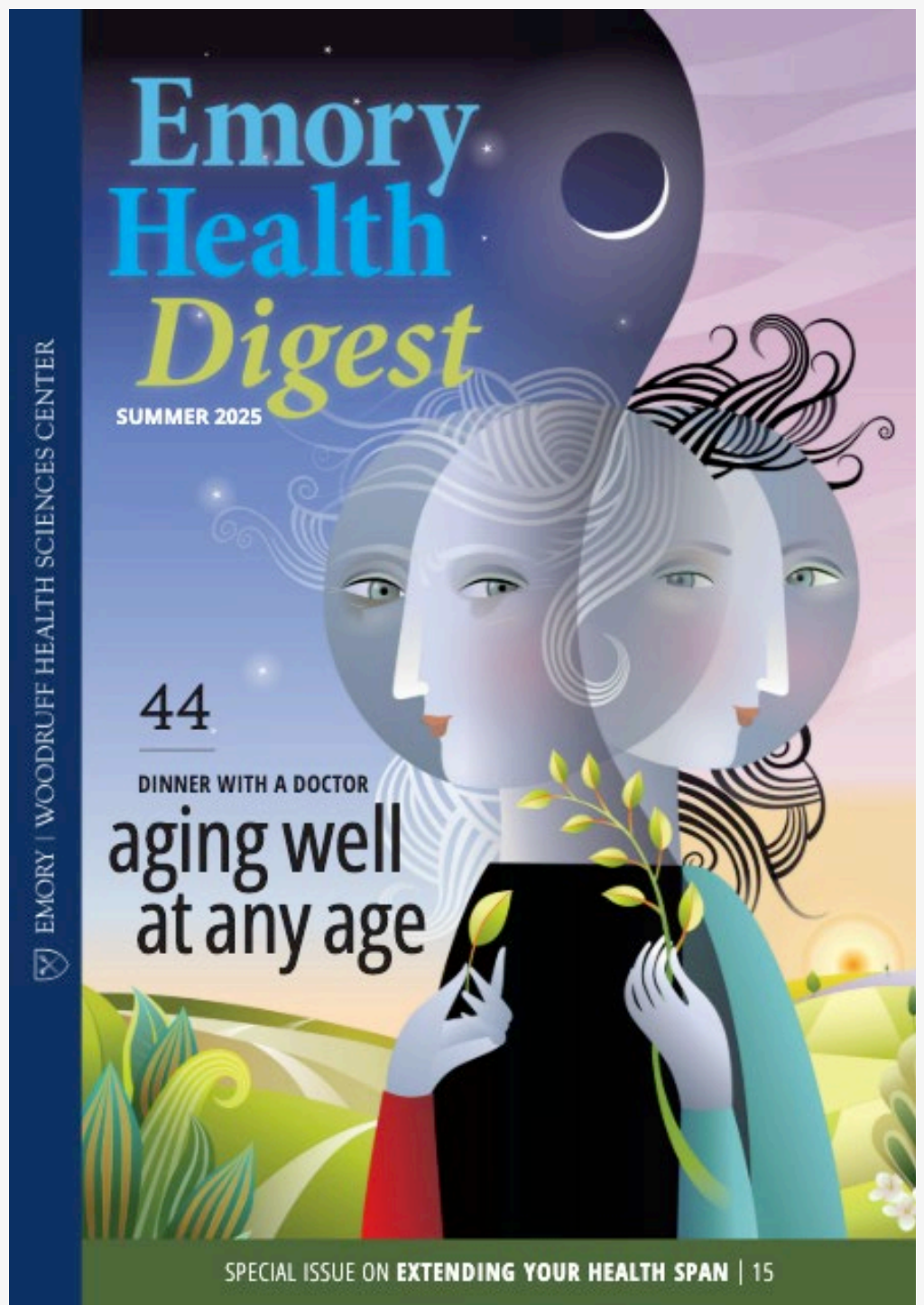


The Division Of Geriatrics And Gerontology Featured in the Summer 2025 Emory Health Digest

The Summer 2025 Emory Health Digest edition was focused on aging well at any age. This special issue was guest edited by DOM's Division Director of Geriatrics and Gerontology **Camille Vaughan, MD, MS**. This Health Digest features expert medical advisors, as well as research advancements related to healthy aging and caregiving. Several of our DOM faculty members and researchers were featured in this edition, who are listed below.

Stories by Division of Geriatrics and Gerontology Faculty Members

- ["I'm Aging, Too,"](#) by guest editor **Camille Vaughan, MD**, Professor and Division Director, introduces the special section titled "Aging Well at Any Age."
- In ["4Ms: Elements of Better Caregiving,"](#) Professor **Ugochi Ohuabunwa, MD**, defines the 4Ms, evidence-based ways to care for patients 65 and older.
- The article ["You Should Be Dancin' Yeah!"](#) by Associate Professor **Madeleine Hackney, PhD**, and Assistant Professor **Diego Remolina, MD**, looks at how a regular dance routine improves cognition and quality of life as we age and may even help prevent the onset or progression of disease.



Dr. Vaughan, left, served as guest editor on this issue of the Emory Health Digest. Here she works with Associate Editor Martha Nolan, middle, and Art Director Peta Westmaas, right.



Dr. Hackney, colleagues, and community members dancing.

Stories by other DOM Faculty Members in this edition:

- In [“Yes, and... Improv tools are helpful for caretakers,”](#) Professor and geriatrics physician **Ted Johnson, MD, MPH**, (Division of General Internal Medicine) explains how when he visited his aunt at her memory care center, he got a real-life lesson in how improv techniques can improve dementia care and communication.
- In [“Do Anti-Aging Supplements Really Work?”](#) Associate Professor **Jessica Alvarez, PhD, RD**, (Endocrinology, Metabolism, and Lipids) discusses six vitamins and supplements that might actually be worth taking.
- According to the article [“More Marathoners Surviving Heart Attacks,”](#) by Associate Professor **Jonathan Kim, MD**, (Cardiology) more people than ever are running marathons in the U.S., the risk of dying from a heart attack during a race has fallen dramatically in recent years.
- In the story, [“Healthy Aging Holistically,”](#) Professor **Vincent Marconi, MD**, (Infectious Diseases) challenges biomedical research’s traditional focus on individual aging-related diseases such as diabetes, cancer, heart disease, and dementia in favor of science that focuses on the whole person.

To read the full Summer 2025 edition of the Emory Health Digest, including these stories, visit the online edition [HERE](#).



➔ In case you missed it! Earlier this fall, Dr. Vaughan was a guest on the Chair Chats Podcast with Dr. del Rio to discuss this special edition of the Emory Health Digest. You can find this episode on our [Podcast Archive here](#).



Emory Alums Thriving at Their Alma Mater

As the largest department at Emory, the DOM attracts impressively talented faculty, staff, and trainees; it also calls many Emory alumni. In fact, our department is full of Emory Eagles, whether they studied here during undergrad, when getting their master’s, or during medical school, residency, or fellowship. Many of our colleagues are back “home” serving in roles at the same institution that shaped them into the professionals they are now.

Here, we shine a spotlight on the journeys of five Emory alumni currently serving in the department. Among them, they hold a multitude of experiences, from early in their careers to tenured professors.



FACULTY

Karen Law, MD

08MR 09CMR 11FM

Associate Professor of Medicine, Division of Rheumatology, Associate Vice Chair of Education, Department of Medicine. Completed her residency and fellowship training at Emory. Served as chief resident. Joined as a faculty member in 2011.



Who has made an impact on your time at Emory and the Department of Medicine?

Given the extraordinary legacy of the DOM, we stand on the shoulders of giants. I am so lucky to have learned from Nanette Wenger, MD, Carlos del Rio, MD, MACP, FIDSA, Joyce Doyle, MD, J. Willis Hurst, MD, and so many other extraordinary teachers during my residency training. And I continue to learn from our faculty and trainees every day, they are what attracted me to Emory, and what has made it such a rewarding destination both personally and professionally.

STAFF

Jason Freiji, MBA

22MBA

Administrator, Division of General Internal Medicine and Division of Geriatrics and Gerontology. Received his Master of Business Administration from Emory University’s Goizueta Business School.



What drew you to Emory, and what has made you stay?

I was attracted to Emory for its exceptional reputation and the opportunities it offers. Throughout my career, Emory has provided me with the chance to work alongside world-class professionals on meaningful and impactful missions. Academically, Emory’s business school stands among the best, offering a truly outstanding MBA program. I knew that earning an MBA from Emory would provide the strongest foundation to advance my career and reach my future goals.



RESEARCHER

Aneesh K. Mehta, MD

99C 06MR 09FM

Professor of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, Professor of Surgery, Division of Transplant Surgery, Distinguished Physician, Emory University School of Medicine. Completed his undergraduate degree, residency, fellowship, and extensive research training at Emory. Joined as a faculty member in 2009.



Who has made an impact on your time at Emory and the Department of Medicine?

In my first year or so as faculty, the DOM hosted a meeting on models of mentorship. During that meeting, Stacy M. Higgins, MD, MACP, Jada Bussey-Jones, MD, MACP, and Kimberly Manning, MD, MACP, described their peer mentorship model. That was an eye-opening experience for me. My friend and colleague Colleen Kraft, MD, was also there, and we decided we wanted to create a similar peer-mentor group. We recruited Jay Varkey, MD, to join us. We have been meeting regularly and ad hoc for 15 years now, and talk about all kinds of professional, personal, and world issues. Having this support system with my Emory colleagues, and many others, has been the most impactful aspect of my time at Emory.

RESIDENT

Eric Bethea, MD, MPH

22M 22PH 25MR

Chief Resident in Quality and Safety, VA Health System, Internal Medicine Resident, J. Willis Hurst Internal Medicine Residency Program. Completed his MD/MPH and residency at Emory.



What drew you to Emory, and what has made you stay?

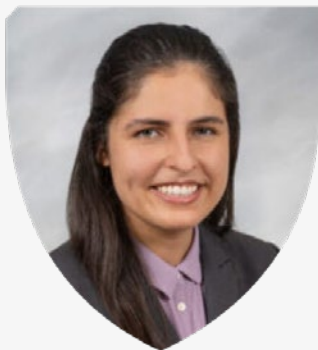
As a Georgia native, I was familiar with Emory and Grady and their reputation for providing world-class care. Attending Emory for medical school and residency gave me the chance to stay near home and my significant other (who also matched at Emory) while also getting a quality training experience. Since starting, I have been impressed by the number of smart but kind and approachable residents and faculty that the program attracts and recruits. Emory’s wide scope in the Atlanta and Georgia community also lends itself to multiple opportunities.

FELLOW

Lily Bonadonna, MD

25MR

Infectious Diseases Fellow, and past Emory Internal Medicine Resident. She is now a first year in the Infectious Disease Fellowship Program.



Can you share a highlight from your time at Emory?

I have enjoyed my time at the Ponce Clinic—HIV primary care. There are so many resources for our patients, and all of the staff are very mission-driven and humble. They are so fun and helpful to be around.

Who has made an impact on your time at Emory and the Department of Medicine?

So many people, including Anandi N. Sheth, MD, MSc, FIDSA, Valeria Cantos, MD, Paulina Rebolledo, MD, MSc, Carlos Saldana, MD, Karen Law, MD, Danielle Jones, MD, Reena Hemrajani, MD, Susan Ray, MD, and the list goes on and on. I find mentors everywhere!

➔ This is a shortened format of the full questions and answers, you can read the full edition [here](#).



Department of Medicine Recognitions

2025 was an extraordinary year for the DOM. Many of our members were recognized here at Emory, as well as on a national and global level, for their innovative work and contributions to the field of medicine.

Faculty Awards



Joanna Bonsall, MD, PhD, (Hospital Medicine) received the Society of Hospital Medicine’s Clinical Leadership in Hospital Medicine Award of Excellence.



Ted Johnson, MD, MPH, (General Internal Medicine) received the Atlanta Medical Association’s 2025 Trailblazer Award.



Carlos del Rio, MD, MACP, FIDSA, (Infectious Diseases) received the Georgia Hospital Association’s 2024 Shepherd Lifetime Achievement Award and the American College of Physicians’ John Phillips Memorial Award for Outstanding Work in Clinical Medicine.



Vincent Marconi, MD, (Infectious Diseases) received the 2025 Veteran Health Administration’s Office of Research & Development John Blair Barnwell Award.

- **Jessica Howard-Anderson, MD, MSc**, (Infectious Diseases) received the Southern Society for Clinical Investigation Early Career Award in the Research Investigator Category.
- **K. M. Venkat Narayan, MD**, (Endocrinology, Metabolism, and Lipids) received the 2025 American Diabetes Association Distinguished International Service Award.
- **Jeff Sands, MD**, (Renal Medicine) received the Robert W. Berliner Award from the American Physiological Society Renal Section.



- **Dustin Smith, MD**, (Hospital Medicine) received the Society of Hospital Medicine’s Excellence in Teaching Award.
- **Laurence Sperling, MD**, (Cardiology) was named the William B. Kannel, MD, Memorial Lectureship in Preventive Cardiology awardee.
- **Ugochi Ohuabunwa, MD**, (Geriatrics and Gerontology) received Atlanta Business Chronicle’s 2025 Health Care Champion Award, Innovator of the Year - Senior Health Category.
- **Anandi Sheth, MD, MSc**, (Infectious Diseases) received the HIV Medicine Association’s Ada Adimora Citation Award.

Designations/Fellowships



Stacy M. Higgins, MD, MACP, Jada Bussey-Jones, MD, MACP, Kimberly Manning, MD, MACP, and Carlos del Rio, MD, MACP, FIDSA, received American College of Physicians Masterships.

- **Frances Eun-Hyung Lee, MD**, (Pulmonary, Allergy, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine), was inducted into the Association of American Physicians.
- **Guillermo Umpierrez, MD**, (Endocrinology, Metabolism, and Lipids) was named a Master of the American Association of Clinical Endocrinology Distinction and received the Lifetime Achievement Award during the International Diabetes and Endocrine Conference.

Emory Awards

- **Karen Law, MD**, (Rheumatology) received the Emory Provost Distinguished Teaching Award for Excellence in Graduate and Professional Education.
- **Greg Martin, MD**, (Pulmonary, Allergy, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine) received the Emory Voice of Health Award.
- **Stacie Schmidt, MD** (General Internal Medicine) received the Emory Alumni Association’s Award of Honor.
- **Yoo Mee Shin, MD** (Hospital Medicine) received the James Steinberg Award for Clinical Excellence at Emory University Hospital Midtown.
- **Jennifer Spicer, MD** (Infectious Diseases) received the School of Medicine’s Evangeline T. Papageorge Distinguished Teaching Award.
- **Susan Ray, MD** (Infectious Diseases) and **Lakshmi Tummala, MD** (Cardiology), received the School of Medicine Dean’s Teaching Award.



Division Highlights



THE DIVISION OF CARDIOLOGY

continues to expand at all clinical sites across the system with 20 new faculty hires in FY25. In terms of scholarly production, the division had its highest level of extramural funding this past year with \$21.5 million in grant funding received from federal and non-federal sources. In addition, the division faculty published 490 manuscripts. The fellowship program continues to be highly competitive with over 1,000 applications this year. The most exciting news of the year was the commitment of a bequest from Mike Dangerfield for \$8.1 million to support cardiology research.



THE DIVISION OF DIGESTIVE DISEASES

saw an expansion in both basic science and clinical faculty recruitment with a total of 19 new faculty. These new faculty will provide patient care at various sites with expertise in general gastroenterology, motility, inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), and advanced endoscopy. Charles Cho, MD, PhD, and Wendy McKimpson, PhD, will help expand basic science research in the division. Peijian He, PhD, MS, received new R01 funding with work focused on iron and its role in liver diseases. Raymond Kim, MD, joined the division as the new Emory Healthcare Clinical Director and will help continue to expand third space endoscopy at Emory Healthcare. Adam Gracz, PhD, had a high impact article published in Nature Communications: “Sox9 inhibits Activin A to promote biliary maturation and branching morphogenesis.”



THE DIVISION OF ENDOCRINOLOGY, METABOLISM, AND LIPIDS

continues to grow and strengthen its programs throughout the Atlanta area. Over the past year, the division has recruited four physicians and two advanced practice providers, expanding access to specialized endocrine care. Endocrinology services will further extend this fall with the opening of a new clinic at Emory Johns Creek Hospital, where Lee Metchick, MD, will join the division’s clinical team. Division faculty remain at the forefront of diabetes care innovation, leading the implementation of diabetes technology programs across both Grady and Emory Healthcare. Ongoing research includes clinical trials focused on integrating these technologies into inpatient and outpatient settings. The division has also received recognition for its strong performance in productivity, quality, patient access, and employee engagement.



THE DIVISION OF GENERAL INTERNAL MEDICINE

marked a year of leadership transition and notable achievements. Jada Bussey-Jones, MD, MACP, was appointed Division Director as Ted Johnson, MD, MPH, stepped down to lead the AIM Center, where he continues to advance faculty development initiatives while maintaining leadership as Chair of the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine. Key milestones for the division included launching the Combined Internal Medicine/Pediatrics Residency Program, promoting five faculty to associate professor, and, through the generosity of the O. Wayne and Gary Rollins Foundations,



awarding two Rollins Career Development Professorships. The Faculty Development and Promotion Committee expanded to serve the entire division with Danielle Jones, MD, FACP, continuing her leadership. Faculty recognition grew significantly this year, with 47 institutional honors, 13 regional and national awards, five master/fellow/trailblazer designations, and six national organizational appointments. Also at the national level, Dr. Bussey-Jones served as President of the Society of General Internal Medicine for the 2024–2025 term and Jason Schneider, MD, was named President-Elect of USPATH.



THE DIVISION OF GERIATRICS AND GERONTOLOGY had an outstanding 2025. Associate Professor Madeleine Hackney, PhD, and Associate Professor of Music Theory Laura Emmery, PhD, collaborated with Science Gallery Atlanta and Performance Hypothesis to host the APPROACH Showcase, a project funded by the National Endowment for the Arts. This project focused on a special tango dance program that brings together young adults and older adults with Parkinson’s disease. The goal is to learn how this program affects people’s views on aging and disability. JAMA Neurology published a VA study led by Division Director Camille Vaughan, MD, MS, from 2018 to 2023 which shows that behavioral therapy works as well as medication for bladder problems in people with Parkinson’s disease.



THE DIVISION OF HOSPITAL MEDICINE, the largest academic hospital medicine division in the country, continues to promote a culture of clinical scholarship that fosters a national reputation. Major

highlights of the past year have included the tenth annual Division Clinical Vignettes Poster Competition, the sixth annual Division Research Day, the annual Division Teaching Competition, the annual Emory Teaching Invitation (a virtual national competition), and the annual Southern Hospital Medicine Conference that our division co-sponsored with Ochsner Health System. Many members of the division presented at regional and national meetings of the Society of Hospital Medicine, the Society of General Internal Medicine, and the American College of Physicians.



THE DIVISION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES continues to grow through collaborative efforts in clinical care, education, research, and advocacy. In the past year, we welcomed nine new faculty members, reflecting our ongoing commitment to clinical innovation and expansion. Highlights include advancing the use of long-acting agents for HIV treatment and prevention, introducing novel therapeutics for C. difficile infection, improving care for immunosuppressed patients, and driving forward diagnostic innovations. Our Infectious Diseases (ID) Fellowship Program remains widely recognized as one of the nation’s best, with many faculty honored for their excellence in teaching and mentoring. This reflects Emory’s deep commitment to preparing the next generation to address the world’s challenges. ID research continues to thrive, with more than \$130 million in federal funding this year, a continued increase from last year. Notably, Colleen Kelley, MD, led research that resulted in regulatory approval and rollout of a new twice-yearly injectable for HIV prevention, heralded as a potential “game changer.” The results of the study were published in the NEJM.



THE DIVISION OF PULMONARY, ALLERGY, CRITICAL CARE, AND SLEEP MEDICINE launched the Emory Comprehensive Lung Center, led by Vibha Lama, MD, MS, with Sr. Clinical Business Manager Ebony Providence, MSHM, to expand our capacity and capabilities to care for patients with difficult and progressive chronic lung diseases. In addition to ensuring access to the broadest array of specialists throughout our network of Emory facilities, the Comprehensive Lung Center is the foundation for our growing McKelvey Center in Lung Transplantation, one of the fastest growing transplant programs in the region.



THE DIVISION OF RENAL MEDICINE welcomed two new faculty members, Hema Sheelvanth, MD, and Abayomi Oyenuga, MD, to support growing patient demand at Grady Memorial Hospital and The Emory Clinic. The Emory Dialysis Clinic at Greenbriar was successfully relocated and expanded to 40 chairs, enhancing dialysis access and patient experience. We also opened a new nephrology clinic at Emory at Findley Road in Johns Creek, extending our reach into the Northern Arc and bringing specialized kidney care closer to the community. Our research portfolio continues to grow, with Doug Eaton, PhD, securing a prestigious NIH R01 grant, furthering our commitment to translational research and innovation. Of special note, Janice Lea, MD, and Nida Waheed, MD, MPH, were reappointed to the American Board of Internal Medicine.



THE DIVISION OF RHEUMATOLOGY continues to advance through innovative clinical care and specialty programs. Arezou Khosroshahi, MD, was an active participant in the clinical trial of Inebilizumab, now FDA-approved for IgG4-RD, and launched a comprehensive CART program at Emory for autoimmune disease clinical trials, which includes patients with lupus, scleroderma, and myositis. Katina Tsagaris, DO, MPH, led Emory’s successful designation as a national scleroderma center, now one of only 34 multidisciplinary centers nationwide offering comprehensive scleroderma care. Prateek Gandiga, MD, FACP, played a key role in the development of the Myositis Clinical Trials Consortium, a global network driving research and collaboration, while Sam Lim, MD, organized the inaugural Emory Rheumatology Alumni Conference in Livingston, Montana, reconnecting former fellows.



A Look Back at 2025





OFFICE OF EDUCATION

2025 Residency Match Day by the Numbers

We were thrilled to welcome the 2025–2026 J. Willis Hurst Internal Medicine Residency interns to our program this past summer. This class of 53 interns began their residencies in July 2025. Match Day is the culmination of our annual recruitment season and celebrates a defining moment in these young physicians’ careers. This year, we received more than 4,100 applications for 470 interview spots to recruit a class of highly talented trainees.

In addition to our J. Willis Hurst Internal Medicine Residency program match, we welcomed 31 interns to the Transitional Year and Preliminary Track Residency program, and two Internal Medicine/Psychiatry residency program interns!

Combined Internal Medicine/Pediatrics Residency Program

We are thrilled to officially welcome our inaugural class of residents for our Combined Internal Medicine/Pediatrics Residency program interns! This year, we received more than 350 applications for four residency spots to recruit a class of highly talented trainees. We also accepted a PGY2 transfer student into this program.

2025 EMORY’S MED-PEDS MATCH RESULTS BY THE NUMBERS

OUR INTERNS AND PGY2 REPRESENT:

4

PGY1 INTERNS JOINING OUR PROGRAM

1

PGY2 RESIDENT JOINING OUR PROGRAM

5

MEDICAL SCHOOLS: UCLA, SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY, MEHARRY MEDICAL COLLEGE, AND INDIANA UNIVERSITY

350

TOTAL MED/PEDS APPLICATIONS

Candidates begin their residencies this July

#EmoryMedPedsMatch | #EmoryMatchDay | #Match2025 | #Match25



2025 EMORY’S IM MATCH RESULTS BY THE NUMBERS

53

44

CATEGORICAL TRACK

8

PRIMARY CARE TRACK

1

RESEARCH TRACK

4,736

TOTAL APPLICATIONS TO ALL PROGRAMS

9

candidates from Emory University School of Medicine

35

national and international medical schools represented

Candidates begin their residencies each July

#EmoryIMMatch | #EmoryMatchDay | #Match2025 | #Match25

2025 EMORY'S TRANSITIONAL YEAR MATCH RESULTS BY THE NUMBERS

31

1

ANESTHESIOLOGY

6

DERMATOLOGY

9

NEUROLOGY

8

RADIOLOGY

6

OPHTHALMOLOGY

1

PHYSICAL MEDICINE & REHABILITATION

5

candidates from Emory University School of Medicine

18

national and international medical schools represented

Candidates begin their residencies this July

#EmoryIMMatch | #EmoryMatchDay | #Match2025 | #Match25

EMORY DOM MATCH DAY 2025

Med/Peds 1st Match

Myriam Shehata (PGY2)

Paetyn Cage (PGY1)

Julia Chase (PGY1)

Ryann Dahle (PGY1)

Anastasiya Yakovlyeva (PGY1)

#EmoryIMMatch | #EmoryMedPedsMatch | #EmoryTYMatch | #EmoryMatchDay

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OFFICE OF EDUCATION

Fellowship Match

Please join us in congratulating our residents, chief residents, graduates, and our divisions on another successful fellowship match! The success of our trainees is a direct reflection of our faculty’s dedication to mentoring, teaching, and supporting our residents in their scholarly endeavors.

Emory internal medicine residents successfully matched into these fellowship programs, *by the numbers*



ADDICTION MEDICINE
1 candidate



CARDIOLOGY
17 candidates



DIGESTIVE DISEASES
3 candidates



ENDOCRINOLOGY
1 candidate



HEMATOLOGY/ ONCOLOGY
5 candidates



HOSPICE/ PALLIATIVE CARE
1 candidate



INFECTIOUS DISEASES
2 candidates



PULMONARY/ CRITICAL CARE
2 candidates

Trainees successfully matched into Emory’s DOM fellowship programs, *by the numbers*



CARDIOLOGY
(including advanced programs)
28 trainees



DIGESTIVE DISEASES
5 trainees



ENDOCRINOLOGY
3 trainees



GERIATRICS
1 trainee



HEMATOLOGY/ ONCOLOGY
(including single and combined tracks)
8 trainees



HOSPICE/ PALLIATIVE CARE
6 trainees



INFECTIOUS DISEASES
5 trainees



INTERVENTIONAL PULMONOLOGY
1 trainee



NEPHROLOGY
7 trainees



PULMONARY/ CRITICAL CARE
(including single and combined tracks)
6 trainees



RHEUMATOLOGY
3 trainees



SLEEP MEDICINE
4 trainees

➔ To see the full list of incoming trainees who matched to our DOM fellowship programs, [click here](#).

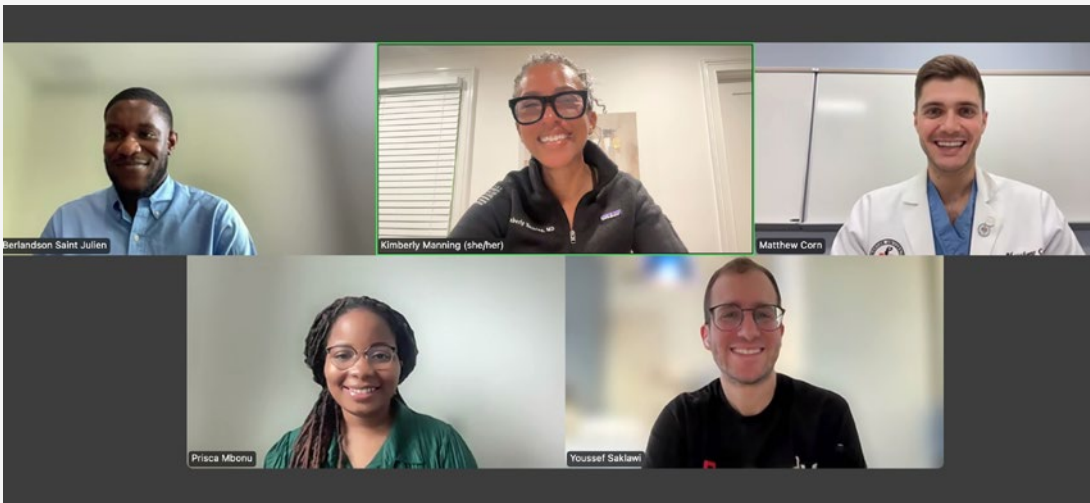


OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ENGAGEMENT

DOM Virtual Visiting Clerkship Program

This year, the DOM hosted its sixth annual Virtual Visiting Mini-Clerkship. The clerkship aims to expose medical students from across the country to the DOM’s residency programs and various careers in internal medicine (IM). The program has various components, including mentorship sessions, virtual exposure to clinical sites at Emory, and opportunities to meet with various faculty and residency leaders in the IM residency program.

The clerkship is divided into two separate, two-week blocks with a new group of participants each time. The first block of the program took place from August 11 to August 22, and the second from September 22 to October 3. There were seven participants total, with five different medical schools represented among them. This clerkship has historically proved to be very successful in recruiting students to our internal medicine residency program, and each year a number of our scholars match here at Emory. The 2025 cohort included:



- Block 1: Matthew Corn (University of Georgia), Prisca Mbonu (Midwestern State University), Berlandson Saint Julien (Georgia State University)
- Block 2: Naomi Coles (George Mason University), Somtochukwu Godwin-Offor (University of Georgia), Malichai Jordan (Emory University), Jeannel Miclat M.S. (St. John’s University)

“The things that we do for learners are often born out of things we wished we had for ourselves. I wish I had something like this as a fourth year med student.”

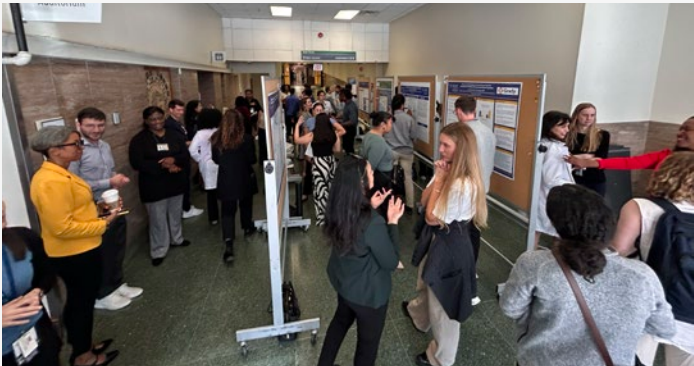
—Kimberly Manning, MD, MACP, Vice Chair, Community and Engagement



OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ENGAGEMENT

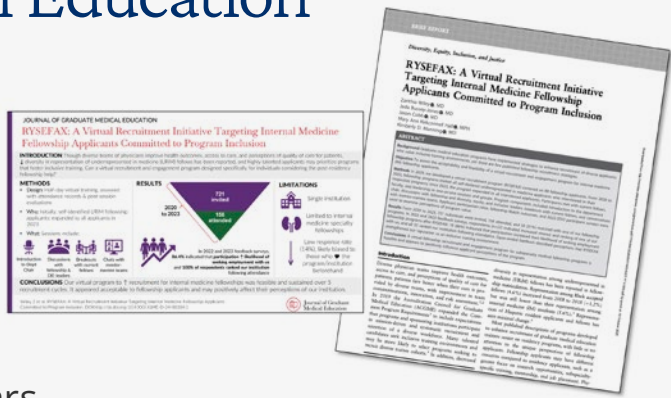
2025 Health Equity Day

In May, the DOM hosted the sixth annual Health Equity Day in partnership with Grady’s Office of Health Equity. This year, for the first time, the event took place in a hybrid format with in-person presentations at Grady Memorial Hospital and online components streamed via Zoom. This annual department-wide event aims to raise awareness and encourage action that advances health equity and addresses barriers to positive patient outcomes. The event also recognizes interventions and research across the department, providing opportunities for collaboration and information exchange between divisions and specialties. The theme for this year’s event was “Community Partnerships,” highlighted through our partnership with Grady Health System, including a keynote presentation by Yolanda Wimberly, MD, Chief Health Equity Officer at Grady.



The DOM’s Virtual Recruitment Initiative Highlighted in the Journal of Graduate Medical Education

This summer, Zanthia Wiley, MD, FHM, FIDSA, Jada Bussey-Jones, MD, MACP, Jason Cobb, MD, Mary Ann Kirkconnell Hall, MPH, and Kimberly D. Manning, MD, MACP, were published in the Journal of Graduate Medical Education, an article that highlights the successes of the program’s first four years.



This program, now known as the Department of Medicine Fellowship Applicant Experience (DOMFAX), was created in 2021 to provide accessible engagement opportunities for program applicants and to increase recruitment to our subspecialty medical fellowship programs. The virtual program provides participants with the opportunity to connect with fellowship program directors and current fellows for an in-depth look at Emory’s programs. This experience aims to help applicants navigate the application process without having to travel to Atlanta. This publication highlights how beneficial the program has been for recruitment. The DOMFAX’s multidisciplinary effort exemplifies the collaborative spirit of our department and includes contributions from infectious diseases, renal medicine, general internal medicine, and hospital medicine. View the full article [HERE](#).



OFFICE OF FACULTY DEVELOPMENT



2025 Department of Medicine
Kathy Griendling Honors and
Awards Celebration

Each fall, the DOM hosts its annual Kathy Griendling Honors and Awards Celebration, a night dedicated to recognizing the outstanding achievements and contributions of our esteemed faculty and staff. Over 300 people attended this year’s celebration, held on Thursday, September 11. Congratulations to all the award nominees and faculty who received senior promotions and clinical distinctions.

Click here to read the complete list of honorees and recipients on our blog, [Emory Daily Pulse](#).



HONOREES AT THE AWARDS EVENT

104	50
Faculty	Staff
Nominations	Nominations
53	61
Newly Promoted Senior Faculty	Clinical Distinction Honorees



OFFICE OF FACULTY DEVELOPMENT



Office of Faculty Development Professional Development Initiatives

The Office of Faculty Development hosted several key programs designed to support faculty growth and advancement. These include:

- Biennial Half-Day Mid-Career Workshop:** Held over two half-days on January 31 and February 7, the workshop offered mid-career faculty a focused opportunity to strengthen their professional development and navigate career transitions. Covering topics such as leadership, career planning, and educational skills, the workshop delivered practical tools and valuable insights to support continued growth and success.
- Annual Faculty Education, Enrichment, and Development (FEED) Conference:** The FEED Conference offers a platform for faculty to engage in professional development. The 2025 conference explored the transformative impact of artificial intelligence on medicine, encompassing clinical practice, teaching, and research. The conference featured a series of general sessions and breakout discussions, highlighting the latest advancements and challenges in the field.
- CV Review Sessions:** Held twice annually, these sessions offer personalized feedback on curriculum vitae, helping faculty present their accomplishments effectively for promotion.
- NEW THIS YEAR: Early Career Faculty Mentoring Program:** This new program, created to foster meaningful connections, provides professional guidance and supports the growth and success of new faculty members during the critical early stages of their academic careers. This was utilized by 90 new early-career faculty members, 15 of whom were successfully matched with a mentor or reported receiving guidance from a team or departmental area. We are excited to build on this strong foundation and continue supporting our early-career faculty through meaningful mentorship and professional development.

The overarching goal of these initiatives is to equip participants with the essential skills, insights, and support needed to become more effective, confident, and successful faculty members.



OFFICE OF RESEARCH

Research, Funding, and Publications

Message from the Vice Chair of Research



The DOM continues to forge ahead in advancing medicine through discovery and impactful clinical research. 2025 was a milestone year for the DOM, with funding surpassing \$215 million. Our impactful work in clinical, basic, and health services research continues thanks to the support from the National Institutes of Health and other federal sources, foundations, corporations, and philanthropy. What makes us unique at Emory is our team science and global outreach. Our community’s continued support is vital to sustaining this work and empowering future generations of researchers.

Vibha N. Lama, MD, MS
Vice Chair of Research

THE DOM RECEIVED:

\$215.2M

in funding in FY25

142

NIH awards equaling \$109M

231

Principal Investigators

12

Active NIH K awards

IN FY25, OUR FACULTY HAD:

58

Active R01s over 44 PIs

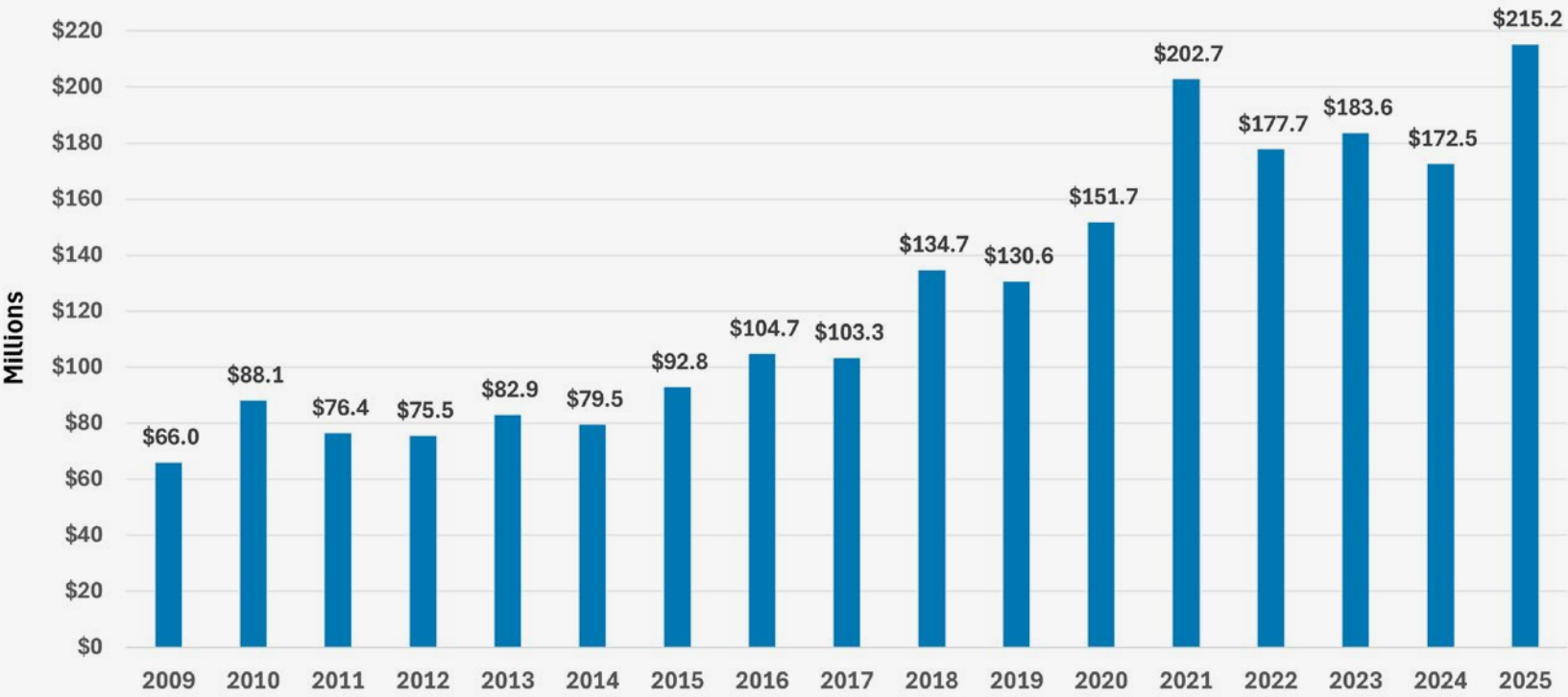
511

Active clinical trials

10,422

total enrollees

DOM Research Funding FY09-FY25



Office of Research Welcomes New Program Coordinator Kanika Chatkara

In October 2024, Kanika Chatkara joined the Office of Research as the new Program Coordinator. Kanika is an eager public health professional with an interest in access to care, health education, and health equity. She received her Bachelor of Science in Cell and Molecular Biology from Augusta University and her Master’s of Public Health from the Rollins School of Public Health.





OFFICE OF RESEARCH

2025 DOM David S. Stephens Research Day

On October 30, research efforts across the department were celebrated at the 18th Annual Department of Medicine David S. Stephens Research Day. This year, we received over 200 abstracts, all of which showcased progress, lessons, and breakthroughs from research across basic, translational, and clinical domains. Over 350 people attended this year’s Research Day and heard the keynote address from Carlos Arteaga, MD, a graduate of the Emory Internal Medicine Residency Program and now Director of the Cancer Center at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. An engaging new panel session featured four distinguished leaders from Emory University, sharing timely insights into the evolving



landscape of academic medical research. Thank you again to everyone who attended.

➔ To see this year’s recap video, watch the YouTube video [here](#). Read the full recap story and see this year’s winners [here](#).

Ease of Research Initiative Town Hall Series

The Ease of the Research initiative, aimed at removing microhurdles and smoothing the path for research, is continuing to grow. A part of this initiative is the continuing town hall series designed to strengthen collaboration and communication across Emory’s research enterprise. These sessions bring together research administration leaders and DOM investigators for open dialogue, problem-solving, and shared learning. The goal is to surface challenges, clarify processes, and identify



opportunities to better support researchers throughout the lifecycle of their work. With strong engagement from both faculty and administrators, this initiative is helping to build a more transparent, responsive, and researcher-friendly environment—one conversation at a time.

➔ For more details, visit our webpage [here](#). Watch past recordings on our YouTube channel [here](#).



GIVING

New Funds Provide Exciting Opportunities for the DOM

Over the past year, the DOM has greatly benefited from many generous gifts, which have allowed expansion, innovation, and new opportunities for our divisions and trainees. Below you will read more about the impact of these gifts and how you can help!

Gifts to the J. Willis Hurst Department of Medicine Residency Fund Expand Opportunities for Our Residents

Past contributions to the DOM Residency Fund have provided valuable resources for our residents to further their training in education, research, and professional development.

One such activity provides funds for our trainees, outside of their normal clinical rotations, to care for underinsured or uninsured patients at one of the four [Mercy Care](#) clinics around the Atlanta area. This opportunity allows our residents to gain important experience and provide valuable service to some of the most vulnerable in the Atlanta community. Last year alone, Mercy Care provided a valuable array of on-site medical and social services for over 76,500 total patient encounters through their network of clinics and outreach programs.

This fund also enables our learners to present their research at conferences around the country. Presenting at these national and regional conferences has an enormous impact on their development as future leaders in medicine. No matter where their future takes them, networking with practicing physicians at these conferences provides valuable experience, builds confidence, grows contacts nationwide, fights burnout, and illuminates possible career paths. Last year alone, this fund enabled 67 residents to present 10 oral

presentations and 81 poster presentations at 27 different conferences across the country. The conferences ranged from ID Week, the Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, the Southern Hospital Medicine Conference, the American College of Cardiology Scientific Sessions, the American



Pictured left to right: Hady Samaha (PGY3), Ashleigh Chuah (PGY3), Nikki (Stephanie) Wyman (PGY3), Ruth Dunn (PGY3), Casey Chmura (PGY2), Rosalind Byrd (PGY2), Laura Pax (PGY3), Estie (Eszter) Toth (PGY2) at ID Week 2025.

College of Gastroenterology Annual Scientific Meeting, and more!

As you can see, a small donation can make a big impact. In fact, a single donation of \$500 could cover a resident’s flight and/or hotel room at an out-of-town conference where they can present their work. A donation of \$250 may mean they can continue to provide care to patients who are uninsured. Any amount, no matter how big or small, can help make a big difference in the lives of our residents, and we thank all who have given to this fund in the past. Your generosity has made these opportunities possible. If you’d like to support the J. Willis Hurst Department of Medicine Residency Fund, you can [click here](#).



GIVING

Cardiology Gift Ignites Innovation and Helps Train the Next Generation of Scientists

Running a research lab as a physician-scientist comes with many challenges—balancing the demands of patient care with the constant effort to push discovery forward. Yet one of the most meaningful parts of the work for Principal Investigator Rebecca Levit, MD, has always been mentoring the next generation of scientists. Training students takes time, patience, and sustained support, but it’s how transformative discoveries begin. Recently, Emory and the DOM have faced difficult financial decisions, including reduced support for trainees. Even those with training grants often do not have full salary coverage, and as stipends rise, labs like the [Levit Cardiovascular Lab](#)—funded by federal research grants—have little flexibility to fill the gap. This is why a recent gift from a generous donor, whose family has been personally affected by heart disease, has made such an extraordinary impact. Their contribution allowed Dr. Levit to bring several new students into the lab and support their research as they work together to uncover how inflammation contributes to heart damage after a heart attack. The lab is also developing novel ways to deliver therapies such as gene therapy to the heart

using hydrogels. These students are already showing remarkable promise, and their work will shape the future of cardiovascular medicine for years to come.

As exciting as the Levit lab’s progress has been, they are only scratching the surface of what is possible. Many of the most



Current Levit Cardiovascular Lab members

innovative and high-risk projects—those that could truly change the way we treat heart disease—are difficult to fund through traditional federal grants. These new directions often require preliminary data, specialized technology, and bold ideas that fall outside standard funding mechanisms. Philanthropic support provides the freedom to explore these frontiers, accelerate discoveries, and train the next generation of scientists who will carry this work forward. Every gift, no matter the size, helps us take the next step toward a future where we can better prevent and heal the damage caused by heart disease. To support the Cardiology Research and Development Fund, click [here](#).

Support our programs

Our department relies on gifts and partnerships to support the clinical, research, and educational goals of our ten divisions. Your charitable contributions can impact health care on a local, regional, national, and global scale. There are opportunities at every level of giving.

MAKE A GIFT

Visit <https://bitly.com/dom-give> to make a gift today.

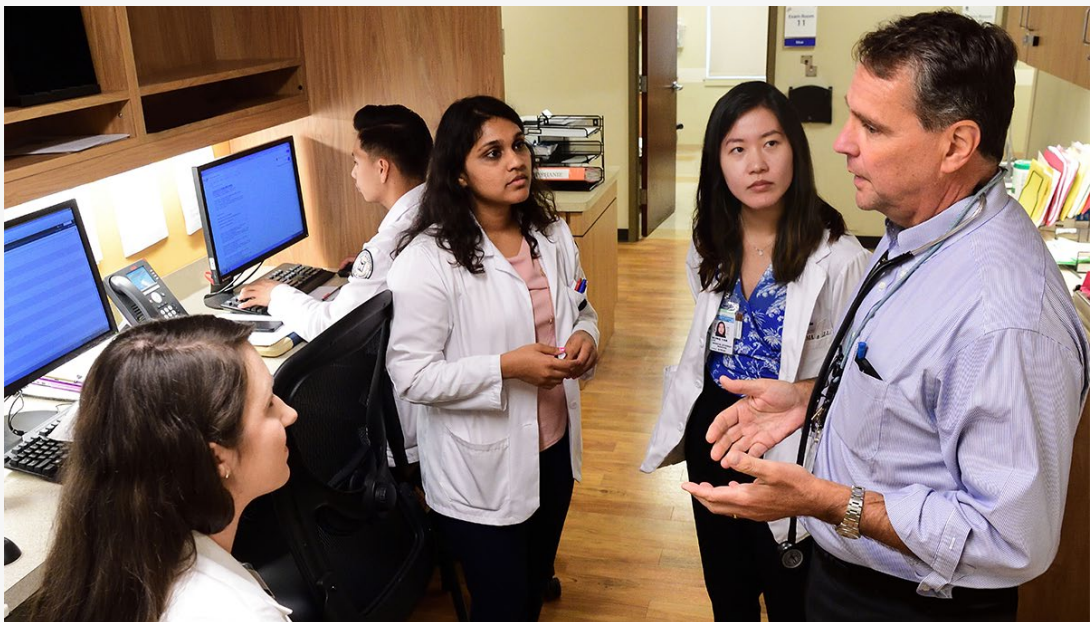


GIVING

Generous Donations from the Rollins Family Enables AIM Center Expansion

The Emory Academic Internal Medicine Center (AIM Center) has seen great expansion over the last year thanks to the generosity of the Gary W. Rollins Foundation, as well as other donors. This center serves as a support program for the Division of General Internal Medicine’s (GIM) faculty development, which includes the advancement of research quality and quantity, as well as educational support.

- Ted Johnson, MD, MPH, Director of the AIM Center, will focus on engaging GIM teams at Grady Hospital and the Atlanta VA Health Care System. His goal is to build a division-wide research and faculty development infrastructure and support. David Roberts, MD, who has assumed the role of AIM Center Co-Director, will support Dr. Johnson, with a primary focus on the Emory Clinic faculty practices and their academic growth and success.
- On September 1, the AIM Center announced their new site lead, Britt



David Roberts, MD, speaking to internal medicine learners.

Marshall, MD, and a new supported faculty member, Paula Dibo, MD, at the Midtown General Internal Medicine Clinic.

- Danielle Jones, MD, FACP, assumed the role of the new Director of Faculty Development and Promotion, with her primary focus on providing guidance, tools, and encouragement to all GIM faculty for a successful academic promotion journey.
- Earlier this year, the AIM Center announced the first two recipients of the newly funded Rollins Career Development awards: Saria Hassan, MD, MPH, and Sara Turbow, MD, MPH.

If you’d like to support the AIM Center, contact Ashley Michaud, Executive Director of Development, or [click here](#).

Stay Connected

Website: medicine.emory.edu

Chair Chats Podcast

Blog: emorydailypulse.com

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