



# THE CUPOLA

The Bulletin of The Medical Alumni Association of Bassett Medical Center  
Cooperstown, New York

Spring 2019  
Vol. XXIII No. 1

## Bassett Research Institute Continues to Make Important Advances

Over the past three years, under the leadership of Anne Gadomski, M.D., M.P.H., the Bassett Research Institute (BRI) has embraced a freshly articulated mission and initiated research projects more closely aligned with patient care at the Bassett Medical Center. Gadomski, a research scientist and practicing pediatrician, was named the director of the BRI in May 2016. Recently she offered this update on some of the projects in which her team and other Bassett staff are involved. "In our work at the BRI, we focus on rural health and health care delivery systems. We aim to help the clinicians here stay connected to research and hope our results will serve as models for health providers in other rural areas," said Gadomski. There are many examples of team science and multi-disciplinary approaches to community and population-based research questions being tackled by the BRI. A few are shared here.

In response to the opioid epidemic within the Bassett service region, a multi-disciplinary task force developed a Comprehensive Opioid Epidemic Strategy (COPES) that includes safe prescribing, medication return, addiction treatment and prevention, and non-opioid pain management. Over the course of one year, the task force worked rapidly to implement and expand a strategy of education, prevention and treatment, and many positive results have been documented to date. This project demonstrates Bassett's response to a crisis impacting our communities and neighbors.

Complimentary to the efforts to develop non-opioid alternatives to pain management, the BRI's Center for Rural Community Health expanded its Chronic Disease Self-Management programs to include Chronic Pain Self-Management within its *Living Well* initiatives. This expansion was funded by the Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) to provide and evaluate chronic pain



To address the stigma surrounding opioid addition, the BRI hosted a showing of *SMACKED*, a locally produced documentary describing the impact of the opioid epidemic in surrounding counties. Anne Gadomski, M.D., M.P.H. Director of the Bassett Research Institute (L.) is shown with Jessica Vecchione, the film producer and owner of VeccVideography.

workshops in the community. These workshops include 12-16 participants who met with two trained peer leaders for 2.5 hours, once a week for seven weeks. Participants made weekly action plans, shared experiences and helped each other solve

problems while learning. In 2018, 66 participants completed the workshops, and 18 workshops are planned for 2019.

Two other *Living Well* programs serve to demonstrate the tangible connections between the Research Institute and patient care. The evidence-based interventions: Diabetes Self-Management Program and Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (originally developed by the Stanford Patient Education Research Center) have enabled participating patients to make significant strides in understanding and managing their diseases. Over the course of two years, 40 workshops were held with almost 400

**Advances to page 2**

## Message from the President of the Medical Alumni Board of Directors

This issue of *The Cupola* highlights the Bassett Research Institute, headed by Anne Gadomski, M.D., M.P.H. I think you'll enjoy learning about their recent research endeavors. Particularly interesting to me is the Comprehensive Opioid Epidemic Strategy (COPES) program, an effort to approach the opioid crisis from which no part of our country is immune. Trying to address the pervasive problems of addiction and overdoses is a daunting task, and more research will certainly help our understanding and treatment of this modern-day plague. The BRI is continuing Bassett's three-part mission of excellent patient care; first-class education, now expanded to its medical school; and cutting-edge medical research.



Kenneth Wilkins,  
M.D., President,  
Board of Directors

My favorite part of *The Cupola* is always the updates on where Bassett alums are and what they're doing. Please send along current information about your lives; photos are also great.

Your alumni board continues to communicate, now under the leadership of Anush Patel, M.D., our new executive director. Douglas M. DeLong, M.D., served in this role with distinction for many years. We are fortunate to have this new guidance and we thank Doug DeLong for his extensive involvement since the formation of the alumni association.

As usual, the board will meet in Cooperstown this October. Any ideas, concerns, or questions will be welcome. ■

*The Cupola* is the newsletter of the Medical Alumni Association of Bassett Medical Center. The Association was founded to provide support and recommendations to Bassett's Medical Education Department; to assist in recruiting medical students, house staff and attending staff; and to provide financial support to develop and enhance medical education at Bassett.

**The Medical Alumni Association of Bassett Medical Center Officers**

*President*

Kenneth W. Wilkins, Jr., M.D.  
New Bern, N.C.

*President-Elect*

James Murray, D.O.  
Rochester, N.Y.

**Board of Directors**

- Madiha Alvi, M.B., B.S.
- Jacqueline A. Bello, M.D.
- Wendy Bergman, M.D.
- John L. Chamberlain, M.D.
- Steven S.T. Ching, M.D.
- James T. Dalton, M.D.
- John S. Davis, M.D.
- Merideth S. Davis, M.D.
- Douglas M. DeLong, M.D.
- John Dier, M.D.
- Nathaniel Doro, D.O.
- Michael Foltzer, M.D.
- Erin Gillaspie, M.D.
- Peter R. Gray, M.D.
- Keonna D. Johnson, M.D.
- Alan J. Kozak, M.D.
- Jing Luan, M.D.
- Erin McKay, D.O.
- Bruce L. McClennan, M.D.
- David E. Newman, M.D.
- Stephanie S. Ocegueda, M.D.
- Sarah M. Ricketts, M.D.
- Eric Rubin, M.D.
- G. Theodore Ruckert IV, M.D.
- Timothy Whitaker, M.D.
- Rachel Zehr, M.D.

**Ex Officio**

William F. Streck, M.D.  
*Chief Executive Officer*

*The Cupola* is published three times a year. Please send comments and news, including change of address information to: Editor, *The Cupola*, Office of Medical Education, Bassett Medical Center, One Atwell Road, Cooperstown, NY 13326 or e-mail [cupola@bassett.org](mailto:cupola@bassett.org).

Alan J. Kozak, M.D.  
*Editor*

Marianne Bez  
*Assistant Editor*

FLAT Graphics  
*Design and Production*

**Advances from page 1**

participants completing the training, and 24 workshops are planned for the spring of 2019. In recognition of the important impact of these *Living Well* programs, the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy presented Bassett with its Evidence-Based Model Award for the strategic evaluation and implementation of solutions that help improve outcomes for patients struggling with chronic conditions.

When first appointed director of the BRI in 2016, Gadomski expressed her intention to integrate more program evaluations—looking at outcomes, costs, return on investment (ROI)—into the work of the BRI. This idea has come to fruition in several ways. One such example can be seen in the work of BRI's New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health (NYCAMH) staff members, Pamela Tinc, M.P.H.; Julie Sorensen, Ph.D. and Paul Jenkins, Ph.D. (in collaboration with external researchers Melvin Myers, M.P.A. and Timothy Kelsey, Ph.D.) featured in the *American Journal of Public Health (AJPH)*. In this study, they demonstrated the cost-effectiveness of an intervention to increase retrofitting of rollover protective structures on tractors in New York and in turn, they recommended the expansion of this program to other states. *AJPH* included a very complimentary editorial on this article.

Another measure of success in the arena of research at Bassett is evidenced by the growing number of articles, publications, lectures and presentations by researchers, medical staff and residents. In addition, the work of the Research Institute attracts significant publicity regionally, statewide and nationally. This small selection reflects the breadth of ongoing projects:

- An international award for best abstract session was given for the research of Bassett Internal Medicine resident Karn Wijarnpreecha, M.D. entitled "Association Between Sarcopenia and Non-alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease and Advanced Fibrosis in the United States," presentation by Pascale Raymond, M.D., a gastroenterologist and E. Donnell Thomas research mentor, at the United European Gastroenterologist conference in Vienna, Austria, on October 22, 2018.
- "Researchers Try to Build a Better Life Jacket to Keep Lobstermen Alive" an interview on October 9, 2018 with Julie Sorensen, Ph.D. on WBUR Radio Providence, Rhode Island.
- "Do Children with Cats Have More Mental Health Problems?" in *Psychology Today*, March 2018, by Anne Gadomski, M.D. and Bonita Gibb, B.S.

- "Assessing Overall Health and Improving Injury Surveillance of Maine Logging Workers" presented by Erika Scott Ph.D. at the Council on Forestry Engineering meeting, Williamsburg, Virginia, July 15 - 18, 2018.
- "Using Influence Strategies to Increase Power Take-Off (PTO) Shielding" presented by Julie Sorensen, Ph.D. and Pamela Tinc, M.P.H. at the Nordic Meeting on Agricultural Occupational Health and Safety, in Hurdal, Norway, September 11 - 13, 2018.

**The Bassett Research Institute Mission**

*"The Bassett Research Institute conducts research to understand and improve the health and well-being of individuals and rural populations. We develop strategies to improve health care delivery, prevent illness and manage chronic disease in support of the Bassett Healthcare Network's mission."*

Gadomski and her team continue to foster research throughout Bassett Medical Center. To introduce research early in the training experiences of residents, they launched a pilot program in 2017 to orient PGY1 medical residents to research opportunities. As a result of positive feedback, the program was added to the

2018-2019 PGY1 resident schedule. Residents individually meet with key staff members to hear about how to participate in the E. Donnell Thomas Resident Research Program, to learn the workings of the Center for Clinical Research and the Institutional Review Board, and to get a better understanding of the basics of research design.

This brief review does not do justice to the work of the Bassett Research Institute and its many centers of interests. There is a remarkably high level of productivity and variety of research ongoing. The *BRI 2018 Year in Review* is a 45-page publication that offers an impressive summary of the many activities of staff, interns, and residents. It confirms that Bassett Medical Center maintains its commitment to population and community health improvement through research. And the Research Institute continues to make meaningful contributions to understanding of health and disease as it has over many decades. ■

**Physician Employment Opportunities in the Bassett Healthcare Network**

**Emergency and Trauma Services**  
**Endocrinology**  
**Family Medicine**  
**Gastroenterology**  
**Internal Medicine**

**Occupational Medicine**  
**Otolaryngology**  
**Psychiatry**  
**Rheumatology**  
**Urology**

For more information visit: <http://recruitment.bassett.org/physician-jobs/> or call the Medical Staff Affairs office at 607-547-6982.

# One Resident's Perspective

By Konika Sharma, M.D.



Konika Sharma

I still remember when I arrived in Cooperstown for my residency interview. It was a snowy January morning and I was standing outside the White House Inn wearing four-inch heels, which we all know is not a good choice for upstate New York winters. Oh, the things we do for interviews! Fast forward three years later and I am still living here and can't get enough of it.

I am Konika Sharma, a third-year Internal Medicine resident, graduate of ASCOMS in Jammu and Kashmir, India, and currently working on my way to fellowship. Cooperstown is not everyone's cup of tea. Still to this day, some people ask me why this place. Honestly, if it weren't for Bassett I wouldn't be here. I remember the day I was discussing the rank list submission with my father. He said, "Small towns will give you the family you need when we can't be there for you." Losing him a month before moving here, Bassett gave me the friends and mentors whom I now call my family.

Intern year was exactly as we were told. It breaks you down then builds you up to the good doctor you will become. Some days seem longer than a year. If it wasn't for the support of my

seniors, I would still be putting in late admission notes well past midnight. I don't know what scared me most in the initial months, working in ICU or doing night float, which both turned out to be among the best experiences I have had.

Membership at Clark's Sport Center is a must! Making sure you eat healthy and exercise while staying on top of our crazy schedule is like balancing on a tightrope.

Second year flew by quickly with what we call "Second-Year Syndrome" when we become super confident. It's when you boss around new interns, nurses become your best friends, and you begin to worry about fellowships. Days off included breakfast at Stagecoach Coffee shop and walks around the lake. It seems that it can't get more peaceful than Cooperstown. Summers are for attending operas at Glimmerglass, concerts at Brewery Ommegang, and hearing bands at local bars. How can anyone forget the Induction weekend? It's the only time there's the stress of traffic and long wait times at your favorite restaurants.

Third year is when things slow down, and you realize how much you have grown. I am the product of all my experiences here: from the attendings that I have worked with who left an everlasting mark, from the briefly shared memorable moments with patients, and from all the remarkable staff here at Bassett. I will forever be grateful to Bassett and Cooperstown community. If I have a chance in future to payback my services to this place I wouldn't hesitate. ■

## Residency 2019 Match Results Announced

All of Bassett's residency programs had success in the National Resident Matching Program 2019. The following is the roster of the first postgraduate year appointments for the 2019-20 academic year:

### General Surgery

**Michael Damiani, D.O.**, New England College of Osteopathic Medicine, Biddeford, Maine

**Tara P. Mojtahed, M.D.**, Rush Medical College of Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, Ill.

**Rosalynn K. Nguyen, D.O.**, Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine, Yakima, Wash.

**James H. Rizor, M.D.**, Eastern Virginia Medical School, Norfolk, Va.

**Mesgana Yimer, M.D.**, University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine, Kansas City, Mo.

### Internal Medicine

**Muhammad Daniyal, M.B., B.S.**, Jinnah Sindh Medical University, Karachi (Pakistan)

**Sugam Gouli, M.B., B.S.**, College of Medical Sciences, Bharatpur (Nepal)

**Anjeela Kadel, M.B., B.S.**, Nepal Medical College, Gokarneshwor (Nepal)

**Pratul Karki, M.B., B.S.**, Nepal Medical College, Gokarneshwor (Nepal)

**Azkie Khan, M.B., B.S.**, Army Medical College, Rawalpindi (Pakistan)

**Marat Mavliutov, M.D.**, Bashkir State Medical University, Ufa (Russia)

**Arpitha Kamala Nanjappa, M.B., B.S.**, Vydehi Institute of Medical Sciences, Bengaluru (India)

**Mwengwe Ndhlovu, M.D.**, St. George's University School of Medicine, True Blue (Grenada)

**Panadeekarn Panjawatanan, M.D.**, Chiang Mai University, Chaing Mai (Thailand)

**Jimmy Wang, M.D.**, St. George's University School of Medicine, True Blue (Grenada)

**Ratdanai Yodsuwan, M.D.**, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok (Thailand)

### Transitional Year

**Marc S. Chaise, M.D.**, Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at the University of Buffalo, Buffalo, N.Y.

**Connor C. Gemmell, M.D.**, Oregon Health and Science University School of Medicine, Portland, Ore.

**Kevin P. Lui, M.D.**, State University of New York Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, N.Y.

**Taylor Martin, D.O.**, A.T. Still University-School of Osteopathic Medicine, Mesa, Ariz.

**Michael Rodman, M.D.**, Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at the University of Buffalo, Buffalo, N.Y.

**David Shieh, M.D.**, Albany Medical College, Albany, N.Y.

**(Jingshuo) Derek Sun, M.D.**, State University of New York Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, N.Y.

**Scott Tseng, M.D.**, State University of New York Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, N.Y.

**Kent D. Upham, M.D.**, Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine, Hershey, Penn.



# THE BASSETT FAMILY ALBUM — ALUMNI NEWS

*Please keep your notes and photos coming!*

## 1960s

### Donald Urrea, M.D.

(Rotating/Internal Medicine resident 1960-62) recalls his time at Bassett often and fondly. He writes, "I was encouraged by Dr. Robert Sioussat and Dr. Harvey Gurian to pursue training in Neurology. Eventually I was in a group practice in Scottsdale and Mesa, Ariz. that included Dr. Lewis Hamilton who later taught at Bassett and still has a home in Cooperstown." Urrea and his wife and family enjoy summers at a home north of Corning, N.Y. and retreat to Queen Creek, Ariz. for the winter where they can enjoy watching the grandkids riding in rodeos and playing hockey.

## 1970s

### Michael Maloney, M.D.

(Internal Medicine/Psychiatry resident 1971-73) would like to help organize a 50-year reunion in 2022 for his intern and residency group from 1971-73. If you would like to join him in this effort, please email [cupola@bassett.org](mailto:cupola@bassett.org) and your message will be forwarded to him.

### Douglas McKibbin, M.D.

(Surgery resident 1977-82; attending 1982-83) retired from clinical responsibilities in 2016 having taught surgical residents at the University of Virginia since



Douglas McKibbin, M.D. 2006 while maintaining a private practice in Fishersville, Va., with

**Joseph Ranzini** (Transitional Year resident 1986-87; Surgery resident 1987-92) for 25 years. McKibbin has fond memories of his years at Bassett and he particularly credits the attendings for

providing a sound surgical foundation to build upon. He shared that he "laments the passing of Dr. Olson, Dr. Harris, Dr. Carey, Dr. MacDonald and others who were so important to our training."

## 1980s

**Stephen Buie, M.D.** (Internal Medicine resident 1981-84) gave an update from Asheville, N.C. where he is the Program Director, for a community-based Psychiatry Residency Program. He urges other alumni, "Send any students interested in psychiatry! We have a rural and integrated care focus and now have two classes of four each."

### Neal Barney, M.D.

(Transitional Year resident 1983-84) reports that he retired in September 2018, from the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health after 26 years of service. He stated, "It was a great place to work and Madison has been a great place to raise a family. I was able to participate fully in all aspects of the academic mission at various times: residency director, federally funded lab, and development of an ocular immunology clinic as a faculty member in the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences. My time in Cooperstown was formative and set me on the path." Now he is doing consulting work from home. He enjoys landscape photography as a hobby—hiking, snow-shoeing or biking to an overlook or vista worthy of a photo.

### John Cianca, M.D.

(Transitional Year resident 1988-89) is a physiatrist with a private practice in Houston, Texas, specializing in sports and musculoskeletal

conditions. He has adjunct appointments as an associate professor at the Baylor College of Medicine and the University of Texas Health Science Center Houston. He also served as medical director of the Chevron Houston Marathon for 22 years. Cianca's 2017 book *Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Cross Sectional Anatomy* was recently awarded the 2019 PROSE Award in Clinical Medicine.

## 1990s

**Eric Bravin, M.D.** (Internal Medicine resident 1994-97; Chief resident 1997-98; attending hematologist/oncologist 2001-present) hosted a cross-country ski gathering for current residents and students at his home during the winter. A group of students from the Columbia-Bassett Medical School are pictured with him here.

## 2000s

**Rory Sears, D.O.** (Internal Medicine resident 2004-07, Chief resident 2007-08) is working in pulmonary and critical care at Samaritan Medical Center in Watertown, N.Y., where she serves as the division chief of Internal Medicine, the director of pulmonary rehabilitation, chair of the sepsis committee, chair of the Medical Staff peer review and on the education committee. She adds, "The years I spent at Bassett were some of the most influential and still guide me today. What a special place to do training with so many physicians that I looked up to and model my practice after. I feel blessed to have been trained at Bassett. Thank you all who participate in resident education."

**Family to page 5**



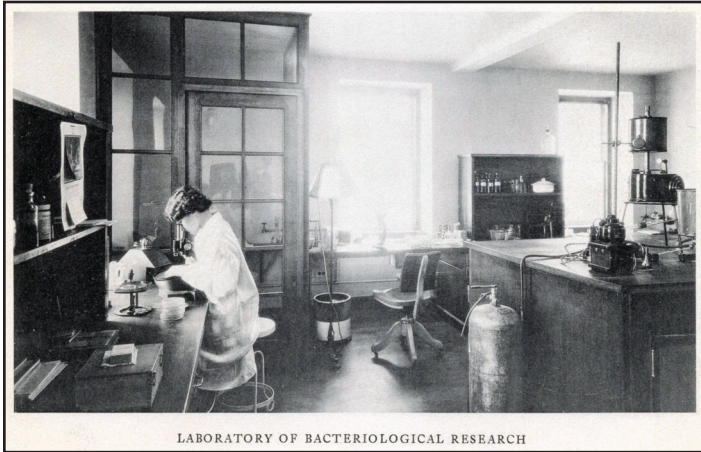
(L-R) Mikko Sayre, Matthew Adan, Ellen Myers, Patrick Ho, and Eric Bravin, M.D.



### A reminder: Who are the members of the Bassett Medical Alumni Association?

You are past and current interns, residents and fellows. You are former and current members of the senior doctoral staff. And you are students of the Columbia-Bassett Medical School program or students who spent your final two years of medical school at Bassett.

## Bassett Looks Back



This photo depicts the Bacteriological Research Lab of George Miner Mackenzie, M.D., and it dates to the 1930s. It was the forerunner of Bassett's immunological research in the 1950s and 1960s that led to E. Donnell Thomas, M.D.'s Nobel Prize in 1990.

### Family from page 4

**Kelly Currie, M.D.** (Surgical resident 2008-13) shared the news that she and her husband Dean just welcomed the newest addition to their little family on March 1, 2019, Xavier Dean.



Xavier Dean Currie

**Brian McElhinney, D.O.** (Transitional Year resident 2009-10, 3rd-year medical student 2007-08) and **Kristina McElhinney, D.O.** (3rd-year medical student 2007-08) report big changes in 2018. They moved from North Carolina to Yarmouth, Maine. Kristina started a new position in family medicine with Intermed in Yarmouth. Brian has a new position with Spectrum Healthcare Partners in neuroradiology, primarily working out of Maine

Medical Center in Portland. Their girls are doing great. Dylan (9) is in fourth grade and has taken up guitar as well as ice hockey. Nora (5) is enjoying kindergarten as well as violin and hockey. Fiona (2) is super excited to be starting preschool soon.

### 2010s

**Wisit Cheungpasitporn, M.D.** (Internal Medicine Resident 2010-13) returned for a visit to Cooperstown



Wisit Cheungpasitporn, M.D.

and presented at Medicine Grand Rounds on February 22, 2019. The subject of his presentation was "Update on Management and Treatment of Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease." He is currently an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, Miss. ■

### Correction

Katherine Lloyd, M.D. was incorrectly identified in the article about the appointment of her son Allan Guiney, M.D., as an attending physician at Bassett which appeared in the Fall 2018 edition of *The Cupola*.



(L. to R.) Ahmed Khan, M.B., B.S.; Konika Sharma, M.B., B.S.; Bishoy ElBebawy, M.B.B.Ch.; Sarah Smith, M.D.; and Benjamin Dao, M.D.

## Residents Awarded Fellowships

Five residents completing their residency training received appointments into prestigious fellowships. They are:

**Benjamin Dao, M.D.**, (Internal Medicine resident), Cardiology Fellowship, Marshall University, Huntington, W.V.

**Bishoy ElBebawy, M.B.B.Ch.**, (Internal Medicine resident), Cardiology Fellowship, Arnot-Ogden Medical Center, Elmira, N.Y.

**Ahmed Khan, M.B., B.S.**, (Internal Medicine resident), Infectious Disease Fellowship, Southern Illinois University, Springfield, Ill.

**Konika Sharma, M.B., B.S.**, (Internal Medicine resident), Nutrition Fellowship, Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, N.Y.

**Sarah E. Smith, M.D.**, (General Surgery resident) Hepatobiliary Fellowship, University of Auckland, Auckland (New Zealand). ■

## Columbia-Bassett Program Class of 2019 Match

The 2019 class of the Columbia-Bassett Program entered the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP) Main Residency Match this year. Their results are:

**Karel-Bart Celie, M.D.**, Plastic Surgery residency at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, Calif.

**Christopher Clayton, M.D.**, Psychiatry residency at New York University School of Medicine, New York, N.Y.

**Michelle Couret, M.D.**, Obstetrics/Gynecology residency at Kaiser Permanente- Kaiser Permanente-Santa Clara, Santa Clara, Calif.

**Caleb Edmonds, M.D.**, Emergency Medicine residency at York Hospital, York, Penn.

**Alexis Fogel, M.D.**, Pediatrics residency at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland, Oakland, Calif.

**Danish Ghazali, M.D.**, Neurology residency at New York Presbyterian/Columbia University Irving Medical Center, New York, N.Y.

**Meaghan Jain, M.D.**, Obstetrics/Gynecology residency at Einstein Campus/Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, N.Y.

**Robert King, M.D.**, Psychiatry residency at Maine Medical Center, Portland, Maine

**Emily Nuss, M.D.**, Obstetrics/Gynecology residency at Christiana Care Health System, Wilmington, Del.

**Andrew Tuck, M.D.**, Psychiatry residency at Duke University Medical Center, Durham, N.C.

Deferred: **Ethan Ayers, Christopher Jackson, Caitlin Yumori** ■



## Bassett Residents Take Part in Statewide Forum



Vijaykumar Sekar, M.B., B.S.; Bishesh Shrestha, M.B., B.S.; Muhammad Idress, M.B., B.S.; Maryam Khavandi, M.D.; Anush Patel, M.D.; Haisam Abid, M.B., B.S.; Samir Jha, M.B., B.S.



Maryam Khavandi, M.D.; Muhammad Idress, M.B., B.S.; and Samir Jha, M.B., B.S.



Vijaykumar Sekar, M.B., B.S.; and Bishesh Shrestha, M.B., B.S.

Bassett Healthcare was well represented at New York Chapter of the American College of Physicians Resident and Medical Student Forum Poster Presentations which were held on Saturday, February 23, 2019, at the Desmond Hotel in Albany. Accompanied by Anush Patel, M.D., Bassett's division chief of Hematology Oncology, a total of six residents presented their research work.



Sowmya Boddhula, M.B., B.S.; and Satish Boddhula, M.B., B.S.

## Residents Represent Bassett in Trauma Paper Competition



Colin Kennedy, M.D. (middle) was one of the top winners. Other Bassett resident participants were Sarah Smith, M.D., and Karl Damroth, M.D.

American College of Surgeons—New York State Committee on Trauma held its 2018 Surgical Resident Trauma Paper Competition at Bassett Medical Center on November 9, 2018. Brian Daley, M.D., (Surgical resident 1992-94) chief of Trauma and Critical Care Surgery at the University of Tennessee Medical Center, was the visiting professor at the competition.

Posters presented by Bassett Surgical residents included:

- Acute Injuries in a Rural Youth Baseball League by Sarah Smith, M.D., Chief Surgical resident.
- Effect of Patient Volume, ACS Trauma Verification, and Level Designation on Mortality: an NTDB Study by Colin Kennedy, M.D., PGY-2 Surgery resident
- Operative Fixation of Rib Fractures in a Rural Surgical Practice: A Case Series by Karl Damroth, M.D., PGY-2 Surgery resident

Kennedy was one of the top two winners in this competition and presented his poster at the annual meeting of the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma in Chicago in March.

Other poster presentations by Surgical residents include:

- Mesenteric Vascular Injury in Trauma: an NTDB Study by Suzanne Evans, M.D., at the Eastern Vascular Society in Washington, D.C.
- Farm Injuries: Animal Most Common, Machinery Most Lethal: an NTDB Study by Karl Damroth, M.D., at the Southeastern Surgical Congress in Charlotte, N.C. ■



See our latest news and updates at  
Bassett Medical Alumni Association

## IN MEMORIAM: BASSETT REMEMBERS

### Rodman Dana Carter, M.D., and Mary Imogene Carter, R.N.



Rodman Dana  
Carter, M.D.

Rodman Dana Carter, M.D., whose career in general surgery and urology at Bassett Hospital spanned more than 40 years, passed away from cancer on Dec. 28, 2018 at his home in Cooperstown at age 90. Carter was born April 6, 1928, in Ashtabula, Ohio, and after high school, he served his country in the United States Navy. He was a 1950 graduate of Harvard University and he received his M.D. from Columbia University College of P&S in 1954. He participated in a rotating internship (1954-55) at Bassett, followed by a clinical fellowship mostly at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital (1955-56) and completion of his surgery residency (1957-60).

After two years of training in urology at the Brigham, he returned to Bassett as an associate surgeon, combining surgical practice with pioneering research in renal transplantation. In the 1960s, Carter played a key role in establishing Bassett's first computer system. As attending surgeon - Urology, he attained the rank of associate clinical professor of Surgery at Columbia University. He retired in 1992.

Mary Imogene Carter, R.N., a native of Cooperstown and retired nursing supervisor at Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital, died on Jan. 31, 2019, at age 93 at Bassett Medical Center, less than a month after the death of her husband. Born in 1925, at Bassett Hospital, Carter, known as "Imy" was named in honor of Mary Imogene Bassett, M.D., who had cared for Imy's mother. After graduating from Cooperstown Central School in 1941, she attended Hartwick College School of Nursing. Upon graduation she went to work as a nurse at Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital, where she taught many house officers on the fronts of surgical and emergency care until retiring as nursing supervisor in 1990.

The Carters met in 1953 while he was a Columbia University medical student on a rotation to Bassett, and they were married in 1958, thus beginning over 60 years together. After retirement, they spent winters in Palm Coast, Fla. Both are survived by multiple family members who can be found, along with other life details, in their obituaries at [thedailystar.com](http://thedailystar.com).

### John H. Milne, M.D.

John H. Milne, M.D., age 87, died Wednesday, March 14, 2018, at the University of Vermont Medical Center in Burlington, after complications from pneumonia. He obtained his M.D. from Harvard Medical School in 1956.

After an internship at Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia, he came to Bassett as assistant resident in medicine (1957-58). He served in the Public Health Service in 1958-60 and then completed a medicine residency at the Mary Fletcher Hospital in Burlington, Vt.

He settled in the Burlington area and began what was then the traditional model of solo private practice in internal medicine. In 1970 he co-founded Aesculapius Medical Center, one of the first free-standing medical centers in the region.

He had met his future wife Robin, a Radcliffe grad, on a blind date in medical school. They were married in 1955 and shared their lives until his death. Milne is survived by his loving wife, Robin Milne of Shelburne, Vt.; two sons, a brother and many other relatives.

### Glenn W. Morgan M.D.

Glenn W. Morgan M.D. lost a seven-year struggle with cancer on Jan. 14, 2014 at age 67. He obtained his M.D. from University of Oregon Medical School in 1974 and moved with his wife Gloria to Cooperstown as a rotating intern in 1974-75. While here, their son Ryan was born at Bassett Hospital. After a stint in the Indian Health Service on Whiteriver Apache Indian Reservation, Ariz., the family (then with three children) moved to Keene, N.H. where Glenn became a family practitioner. Eventually they relocated to Oregon, finally settling in Eugene where Glenn was an Emergency Room physician at Sacred Heart Hospital from 1987 to 2007.

Glenn was an avid birder with a birding "Lifelist" of over 5,000 species. He is survived by his wife Gloria of 45 years; sons: Ryan, Jamison Morgan, M.D., and Douglas and their wives; eight grandchildren; sisters: Barbara Morgan M.D., Suzanne Long and his twin, Betsy Graycerak. ■

## Making the Most of Your IRA

Using your traditional IRA to make a charitable contribution is a great way to support medical education at Bassett while reducing your tax bill.

If you have a traditional (not a Roth) IRA and are 70½ years old or older, you are required every year to take a minimum distribution from the account. That distribution counts in the calculation of your adjusted gross income and therefore is subject to federal income tax.

However, if you transfer your required minimum distribution directly from your IRA account to a qualifying charity, like Friends of Bassett, the transferred amount does not count as income. Your IRA custodian must send the check directly to Friends of Bassett, not to you. You and your spouse can each distribute up to \$100,000 a year in this manner.

A qualified charitable distribution (QCD) is not subject to federal withholding, and because a QCD lowers adjusted gross income, it may provide related advantages, such as avoiding

the Medicare surtax on investment income and lowering the cost of Medicare premiums and taxes on Social Security income. Your tax accountant can provide you with information specific to your situation.

You do not need to itemize deductions in order to benefit from a QCD, making it a valuable way to make a gift under the current tax law. Of course, the amount you transfer from your IRA to the Friends of Bassett, while charitable in its intention and use, does not qualify for a gift tax deduction. The value to you comes in the QCD reducing your adjusted gross income. The value also comes in knowing that your QCD will have an impact on medical education at Bassett Medical Center, helping to develop the skills and careers of the next generation of physicians.

If you are interested in making a gift to Bassett through a QCD, please contact your tax adviser or IRA administrator or the Friends of Bassett by emailing [friends.office@bassett.org](mailto:friends.office@bassett.org).



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## Alum Returns to Head Bassett Cancer Institute

Alfred Tinger, M.D., assumed the position of chief and medical director of the Bassett Cancer Institute on April 1, 2019. After receiving his M.D. from SUNY Downstate in 1992, Tinger came to Bassett as a Transitional resident. He then moved on to Washington University in St. Louis for training in Radiation Oncology. After completing this specialty training, he returned to New York to St. Joseph's Medical Center in Yonkers where he oversaw the development of a highly reputable cancer treatment program. He subsequently spearheaded the development of another model cancer treatment program nearby at Mt. Kisco's Northern Westchester Hospital.

Over the years, he has been actively involved in his surrounding medical community. His leadership skills have been further manifested by his roles as president of the Westchester Medical Society and chairman of the Heart, Lung, and Cancer Committee of the New York State Medical Society.

In coming to Bassett, he provides leadership to a team comprised of physicians and support staff approaching 100 in number. He will provide oversight to oncologic care



*Alfred Tinger, M.D.*

of patients not only in Cooperstown but also the several regional sites within the network where such care is given. Among his major goals for the Bassett program he hopes to achieve: the maintenance of consistently ready patient access, the highest quality state-of-the-art care and outcomes, as well as sustainability in a medically competitive environment.

His fondness and respect for Bassett have their origins in his Transitional training year during which he witnessed a genuine focus on patient-centered care. This is a focus he wants to maintain.

"I've loved Cooperstown since my time spent here as an intern," he states. In fact, in 2008, Tinger purchased a seasonal home on the lake where he, his wife, and five sons spent as much time as possible during the warmer weather. He enthusiastically looks forward to a family relocation to Cooperstown in one year, following his youngest son's completion of high school.

It is with great pride and enthusiasm that we welcome the return of another superbly trained, impressively experienced, and extremely talented alum, imbued with a philosophy of care consistent with that of a Bassett legacy. ■