The Legacy

After starting another successful academic year, this issue will present many other accomplishments, celebrations, achievements but, also, times of disasters, sorrows.

Our 2nd class of residents started in full throttle after orientation and boot camp during the month of July. Like our 1st class, this new residents are an important pillar of our residency.

We have (from left to right): Dr. Akiva Pollak, Dr. Sheila Bawany, Dr. James Chiang, Dr. Joshua Tsao, Dr. Nicholas Fusco, Dr. Alex Craen, and Dr. Andrew Hanna.

At Dr. Ballinger’s home, we have our welcome party where we talked about all the accomplishments from the last year and we welcomed the new class.

We also had the visit of Dr. Jane Gibson who if the Chairperson for the UCF COM Department of Clinical Sciences.

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Letter from the Program Director

It is in December, with the promise of a new year just around the corner, that I like to reflect on our progress. The UCF EM Residency Program of Greater Orlando has had an amazing year. I am thankful to Dr Rubero for chronicling our events and achievements in these newsletters. So much has happened, they are a wonderful reminder of just how far we have come.

I also realize that although the calendar year is nearly over, the academic year is only half way through! We are teaching and learning in full force. Our PGY 1 residents are now fully part of the department and our PGY2 residents are half way through their training! Our core faculty have developed exciting and novel ways to teach and to inspire the residents!

For this edition of the newsletter, I would like to remember that we are all teachers and we are all learners. Every staff member in the ED contributes to each others learning every day!

A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination, and instill a love of learning.
"Brad Henry"

So let's think about how we can be the inspiration and how we can ignite our imaginations!

Happy Holidays!

Bethany Ballinger MD, FACEP, FAAEM
Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine
Program Director

Recruitment

Guess what?
It is again that time of the year.
We started the process in reviewing the ERAS applications for the interview season. We will select medical students across the nation to be interviewed for our next incoming 2018 class. Already, we interviewed students who did their EM rotation/clerkship with us.

Recruitment at ACEP

Welcome to Our Fourth Issue

In this issue, I will like to dedicate it to these two courageous Kissimmee police officer who were killed in the line of duty.

Sgt. Sam Howard and officer Matthew Baxter were part of our life either in our Emergency Room as security detail, in the city, and/or community.

José A. Rubero, MD, FACEP, FAAEM
Associate Program Director
Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine
Symposium By The Sea

In August, we attended at the Symposium by the Sea organized by the Florida College of Emergency Physicians. Dr. Leoh Leon and Dr. Amanda Webb participated at the CPC Competitions. Dr. Kendra Amico presented “Traumatic Intracranial Hemorrhage”.

At the Symposium by the Sea our own Dr. Rene Mack received the William Haeck Award.

Dr. Mack was an active Board member during her seated term, and she continues to chair the FCEP Membership & Professional Development Committee. Dr. Mack has also been the chair for FCEP’s Annual Meeting – Symposium by the Sea – for more than four years.

The William Haeck Award, which is named after FCEP’s first president Dr. William Haeck, was created to recognize an FCEP member who dedicates their time to the emergency medicine community. The individual actively works to help increase FCEP membership involvement, provide support to residents and encourages medical student engagement.

The Legacy

These past months, our Faculty were given different awards.

Dr. Bethany Ballinger was awarded the AMA 2017 Inspirational Physician award.

Dr. David Lebowitz and Dr. Javier Rosario received awards from UCF COM. Dr. Lebowitz obtained the “Early Career Education Award”.

Florida College of Emergency Physicians
Resident Corner

By: Abhishek Roka, MD, and Leoh N. Leon II, MD

Greetings once again from UCF/HCA Emergency Medicine Residency Program of Greater Orlando. It’s hard to believe that 2017 is coming to an end, but we have so much to share with all of you as the last few months have been filled willed with exciting awards, events and news!

We would like to start by congratulating Dr. Ballinger for receiving the AMA Inspirational Physician Award. Dr. Lebowitz has received the UCFCOM Early Educator award and Dr. Rosario received the UCFCOM Innovative Teaching Award. Furthermore, we went to ACEP17 in Washington, DC and it was absolutely amazing! Dr. Rosario is now officially a Fellow of the American College of Emergency Physicians. We had 4 residents, Drs. Kramer, Leon, Roka and Singh presented their research abstracts. Drs. Amico, Banerjee, Ganti, Okuda and Rosario presented as well, and Drs. Okuda and Rosario assisted in SIM Wars.

The 2nd year class recently completed their APLS training at Nemours Hospital along side the residents from UCF Ocala and Gainesville. It was great to meet our fellow UCF EM residents from the other programs! Also, we are excited to say that interview season has begun and we are extremely excited to be a part of the interview process for our 3rd class. So far it has been wonderful to meet all of the candidates. We wish you all the best of luck!

Last but not least, congratulations to Dr. Cabrera on the welcoming of his new baby and we are extremely excited to say that we are going to have a baby Benzing! Congratulations to Dr. and Mrs. Benzing on the new future addition to their/our family.

Simulation and Cadaver Lab

Dr. Javier Rosario and Dr. David Lebowitz started this year with a new version of Simulation Lab. Once a month, the residents and the Faculty move to UCF COM Simulation Lab where innovative simulations are used combined with cadavers, small groups, and lectures.
EM Residency continues to impress with research portfolio

Sepsis
Emergency Medicine, as a hands-on clinical residency has always strived to conduct clinical research that helps process improvement in real time. One of things we struggled with early in the year was sepsis bundle compliance. Leoh N. Leon II, MD (PGY-2) and Nicholas Kramer, MD (PGY-2) worked on this vexing problem for their quality project. Along with faculty Drs. Amico, Ballinger, Dub, Ganti, Lebowitz and Rosario they designed a 3-pronged approach.

The first intervention was to provide visual reminders to busy ED providers about considering sepsis, by making colorful cards listing SIRS and sepsis criteria that were attached to the computers monitors immediately to the right of the line of sight. A fancier and more comprehensive version of this card that could be attached to the hospital ID was distributed to all ED workers. This was followed by a 30 day period in which staff received a daily “sepsis fun fact,” that provided an educational nugget highlighting the importance of recognizing sepsis and acting promptly to treat it. Following the 30-day fun fact period, Drs. Leon and Kramer surveyed the staff to assess their satisfaction with the project.

Their hard work paid off. Bundle compliance increased from 38 to 56% (P=0.04); the compliance still held at the 6 month mark, at a total of 68%. In addition to tabulating the sepsis bundle compliance rate before and after, Drs. Leon and Kramer designed a robust sepsis data registry for which they painstakingly entered data by hand, collecting a total of 170 patients and 38 fields for a total of 6460 data points. These data helped to provide a more detailed picture of sepsis bundle compliance, and whether it actually made a difference to patient outcomes, such as a hospital length of stay, transfer to ICU and in-hospital death. Drs. Leon and Kramer are currently analyzing the data to see if there were additional factors that contributed to lack of sepsis bundle compliance, to promote even better compliance. The results of their research were recognized at the annual ACEP scientific assembly.

Pediatric Cardiac Arrest
For their resident research project, Drs. Amninder Singh and Abhishek Roka teamed up with Drs. Banerjee and Ganti, who are medical director and associate medical director for Polk County Fire Rescue. They analyzed county pediatric cardiac arrest data from 2012-2017, and found that on scene intervention (“stay and play”) produced superior patient outcomes compared to rapid transport (“scoop and run”). The improvement in return of spontaneous circulation (ROSC) was astounding, going from a survival rate of 0% to 79%. While the earlier CPR provided by EMS personnel was itself significantly associated with ROSC, hospital arrival and survival to discharge (all P<0.0001), any form of treatment before EMS arrival was also strongly associated with ROSC, hospital arrival and survival to discharge (all P<0.0001 for all). These groundbreaking data have the laid the groundwork for a paradigm shift in the way pediatric cardiac arrest is handled. The results of this research have been presented at ACEP and the American Heart Association.

Dr. Ganti and Dr. Banerjee were part of “Drop the Mic” New Speakers Competition at the 2017 ACEP Academic Assembly in Washington, DC.

Latha Ganti, MD, MS, MBA, FACEP, FAHA
Vice Chair for Research and Academic Affairs,
UCF/HCA GME Consortium Emergency Medicine Residency Program of Greater Orlando
Professor of Emergency Medicine and Neurology
UCF College of Medicine

Dr. Rosario as a moderator and judge at SIM - WAR in ACEP
Grand Rounds

On June 14, we have the visit of Dr. Jonathan Perlin who is the President, Clinical Services and Chief Medical Officer for HCA, Inc. Dr. Perlin talked about “To Care is Human”. Also, he was the Keynote Speaker for the 3rd Annual Quality and Patient Safety Forum at the Orlando VA in June 15.

EM FACULTY and Residents
**From the Research Director's Desk**

**American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) 2017 Scientific Assembly Oral Research presentations:**

1. “Sepsis fun facts: A Simple Way to Increase Sepsis Bundle Compliance”
   Leon, Rosario, Amico, Dub, Lebowitz, Kramer, Ballinger, Ganti

2. “Septic Shock Patients More Likely to Be Admitted to ICU from Floor”
   Dub, Lebowitz, Kramer, Leon, Rosario, Amico, Ballinger, Ganti

3. “Procalcitonin Trend Predicts Discharge to Home in Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock Patients”
   Kramer, Amico, Leon, Rosario, Lebowitz, Dub, Ballinger, Ganti

4. “Early Transport versus On-Scene Management of Pediatric Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest”
   Banerjee, Singh, Ganti

5. “Who Gets tPA? Beyond the Basic Demographics”
   Ganti, Landeta, Roka, Ballinger

6. “Predictors of Good Outcomes After Pediatric Cardiac Arrest”
   Banerjee, Singh, Ganti

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**3rd Annual Quality and Patient Safety Forum**

In June 15, UCF COM and the Orlando VA organized the 3rd Annual Quality and Patient Safety Forum where it took place at the Orlando VA Medical Center. We presented two posters:

- Improvement of Timely Analgesia in ED Management of Long Bone Fractures by Dr. Adam Benzing, Rolando Cabrera, et al.
- Improving Sepsis Bundle Compliance by Dr. Leoh Leon, Nicholas Kramer, et al.
Disasters
This Hurricane Season was one very active and destructive not only locally but, also, in all Florida, Texas, US Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. Our residents were on call in house while Irma path acting together as a team. Irma path already destroyed the US Virgin Islands and affected Puerto Rico but, it was really Maria Path who destroyed the same islands affecting water, electrical power, food, and health issues. Many organizations including UCF and HCA stood up and helped. We know that there is a large influx of people escaping the poor conditions in the islands and looking for a better situation or health. The work is just starting....