

# FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS 2020

## A YEAR IN REVIEW



**Baystate  
Health**



University of  
Massachusetts  
Medical School

# INTRODUCTION



## ANDREW W. ARTENSTEIN, MD

*Chief Physician Executive and Chief Academic Officer, Baystate Health; President, Baystate Medical Practices; Regional Executive Dean and Professor of Medicine, University of Massachusetts Medical School-Baystate*

As has been amply documented, 2020 was a year unlike any other in recent history. The COVID-19 pandemic has presented our health system with numerous, complex challenges. Yet it has also afforded Baystate Health the opportunity — the necessity — to adroitly innovate and nimbly experiment with new and creative approaches to addressing rapidly evolving clinical dilemmas. And the faculty of our academic provider organization have taken full advantage of the opportunity. Our teams not only employed evidence to make decisions but also developed evidence where none existed. Through it all our faculty put evidence into clinical practice and disseminated the results to their peers. I continue to marvel at their accomplishments, partially catalogued in the pages that follow, and am grateful that their work continues to improve the lives and health of our patients and our communities.



## AMY S. GOTTLIEB, MD, FACP

*Chief Faculty Development Officer, Baystate Health; Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs and Professor of Medicine and Obstetrics & Gynecology, University of Massachusetts Medical School-Baystate*

Each month, the Office of Faculty Affairs highlights our faculty's national-level achievements, including publications, presentations, grants, and awards. This past year underscored the tremendous knowledge, skill, and determination our faculty demonstrate on a daily basis. I am proud to present the following individuals and hope you will enjoy reading about their outstanding accomplishments during these turbulent times. To see a list of COVID-related scholarship generated by our colleagues, turn to the last few pages. For further information, please contact Allison Billeter, Digital Content Analyst, at 413-794-8789 or [Allison.Billeter@baystatehealth.org](mailto:Allison.Billeter@baystatehealth.org).

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## JANUARY 2020

### Katie Jobbins, DO, MS, FACP

Congratulations to **Katie Jobbins, DO, MS, FACP**, Assistant Professor of Medicine and Associate Program Director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program at UMMS-Baystate, for being selected as a 2019 Inspiration Award honoree by the American Medical Association's Women Physicians Section last month. This national award honors physicians who have helped develop the professional careers of colleagues, residents, and students. Amanda Whitehouse, a 3<sup>rd</sup> year medical student in UMMS-Baystate's PURCH program, nominated Dr. Jobbins.

In her nomination letter, Ms. Whitehouse stated: "I have had the privilege of working with Dr. Jobbins for the past two years for our longitudinal preceptor program. She has had an incredibly positive impact on my learning experience and life. She embodies the physician I want to be in the future. She cares deeply for her patients as evidenced by patients switching health care systems when she recently moved to a new position. She is invested in the education of future physicians. I have had the privilege from learning from her but I know of many other students, residents and colleagues of hers that benefit from her commitment to teaching. She is an incredible asset...and I look forward to continue learning from her!"

Dr. Jobbins is proud to represent UMMS-Baystate amongst such an amazing group of physicians. "This award truly showcases the importance of education, self-reflection and feedback and how inspiring young physicians moves the field of medicine forward," said Dr. Jobbins.

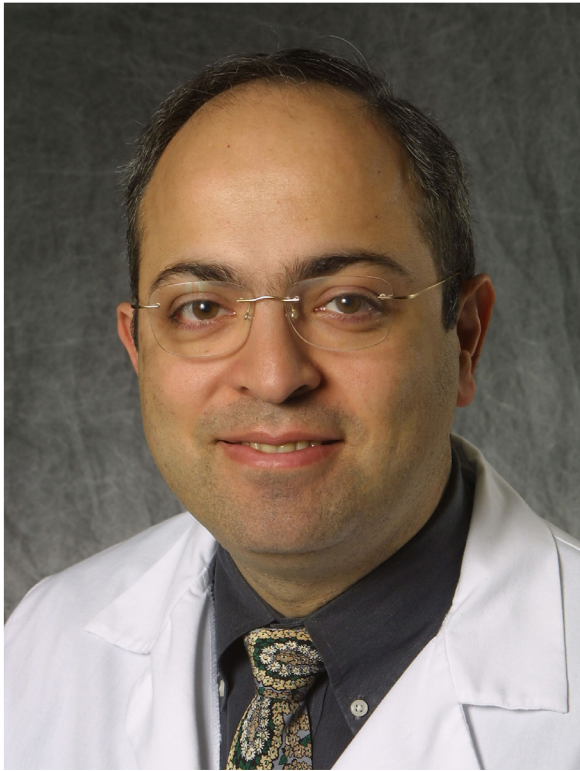


### Thomas Lincoln, MD

The Massachusetts Chapter of the American College of Physicians (ACP) recently honored physician members at their Annual Meeting on November 9<sup>th</sup> in Waltham, MA. **Thomas Lincoln, MD**, Associate Professor of Medicine at University of Massachusetts Medical School-Baystate, received the Humanism in Medicine Award in recognition of his work in correctional medicine. Elisa Choi, MD, FACP, FIDSA, Governor of the Massachusetts Chapter of ACP, presented the award for Dr. Lincoln's "pioneering the way for a marginalized population to receive access to outstanding care in the most complex of situations; incarceration." The Humanism in Medicine Award was first presented in 2015, recognizing outstanding dedication and service to patients and underserved populations.

Dr. Lincoln and Baystate Health colleagues work with the Hampden County Correctional Center in a community-integrated program that became a national model for correctional health care and has sustained for 25 years.

## FEBRUARY 2020



### Fadi Bsath, MD

In January 2020, **Dr. Fadi Bsath**, Associate Professor of Obstetrics & Gynecology, was voted Chair-Elect of the Practice Management Division Advisory Board of the Society for Maternal Fetal Medicine (SMFM).

The SMFM Practice Management Division provides comprehensive resources for the operations and administration of a high-risk obstetric practice. The Division oversees the SMFM Coding Committee, organizes semiannual national coding courses and an annual practice management course, develops webinars, coding resources, and assistance with payer conflict. It also runs an annual physician leadership training program and provides mentorship opportunities and consulting services for fellows and junior faculty in contracting and management. In its leadership training and mentorship roles, the Division assists members and fellows with difficult issues and conversations in early or established roles of their practice. The Division also provides practice management consulting services, both in-person and remote.

Once Dr. Bsath serves this executive role for 2 years, he will become Board Chair in 2022 for a period of 3 years.

## MARCH 2020

### Karin Johnson, MD

**Dr. Karin Johnson**, Vice Chair for Academic Affairs and Associate Professor of Neurology at University of Massachusetts Medical School-Baystate, has been elected by her peers to serve as Sleep Medicine Section Chair for the American Academy of Neurology from April 2020-2022. As Chair, Dr. Johnson will help develop national sleep medicine guidelines and serve as a liaison with other national organizations including the American Board of Medical Specialties and the American Academy of Sleep Medicine.

"I have a particular interest in promoting Sleep Medicine as a specialty among residents and medical students," said Dr. Johnson. Her recent research revolves around gender differences in patients with mild obstructive sleep disordered breathing and attempts to find novel scoring features that will better predict which patients will benefit from treatment.

"This role nationally recognizes Baystate's own Sleep Medicine program, which now has a multidisciplinary team including 10 Neurology, Pulmonology, Psychiatric, Internal Medicine, Med-Peds boarded Sleep Specialists and 4 advanced practitioners," added Dr. Johnson. This team has clinic sites at Baystate Medical Center, Longmeadow, Northampton, Baystate Franklin, Mason Square, Baystate Wing, and Baystate Mary Lane. "We have 20 sleep beds at 3 laboratories and a large Home Sleep Study program with pickup sites across the region," noted Dr. Johnson. The sleep clinics see patients of all ages.





## Amy S. Gottlieb, MD, FACP

The Society of General Internal Medicine (SGIM) has named **Amy S. Gottlieb, MD, FACP**, Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs and Professor of Medicine and Obstetrics & Gynecology at University of Massachusetts Medical School-Baystate and Chief Faculty Development Officer at Baystate Health, the recipient of the 2020 Elnora Rhodes Service Award. This award recognizes the highest level of service to SGIM and is given annually to an individual for outstanding contributions to the Society in upholding its missions of clinical care, research, education, and community service in primary care internal medicine. It was established in 1997 to honor Ms. Elnora M. Rhodes and her contributions to the Society during her ten years as Executive Director.

Dr. Gottlieb was nominated by fellow SGIM members Wendy Bennett, MD, MPH, of Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine; Brita Roy, MD, MPH, MHS, of Yale School of Medicine; and Julie Mitchell, MD, formerly of the Medical College of Wisconsin.

Dr. Gottlieb has been a member of SGIM since 2005 and is nationally recognized for her work on gender equity in academic medicine. She was elected to become a member of the SGIM Women and Medicine Commission in 2008 and served as Co-Chair from 2013-2015 and Chair from 2015-2017.

“Dr. Gottlieb has made tremendous contributions to our organization with measurable results in career advancement and sponsorship for women faculty,” said the award nominators. “Rarely does a single SGIM member have as great a positive impact on the organization and the field as Dr. Gottlieb.” During her tenure as commission co-chair, Dr. Gottlieb conceptualized, championed, proposed, created, and implemented the SGIM-Career Advising Program (CAP), a nationally recognized sponsorship program within SGIM. The first program of its kind nationally, CAP has enrolled more than 300 SGIM members since its inception. Medical associations nationwide, including the American College of Physicians and the Association of American Medical Colleges, have adopted the CAP strategy to improve gender equity in medicine.

In addition to her work on behalf of SGIM, Dr. Gottlieb is an elected member of the Association of American Medical Colleges Group on Women in Medicine and Science Steering Committee and is currently editing a book on how organizations can narrow the gender pay gap in medicine.



## JUNE 2020



## Jeannette Wolfe, MD

The Society for Academic Emergency Medicine (SAEM) has honored **Jeannette Wolfe, MD**, Professor of Emergency Medicine at UMMS-Baystate, with the Advancement of Women in Academic Emergency Medicine Award. SAEM Awards recognize excellence in emergency medicine, contributions improving the health of society, and academic achievements.

Dr. Wolfe has extensively written, lectured, and conducted research about sex and gender related issues at both at the national and international level. She is a founding member of the Sex and Gender in Emergency Medicine Interest Group, developed the annual SAEM Jeopardy Game, and created her own podcast called *Sex and Why*. With the onset of COVID-19, her mission has become even more essential as sex-based differences in mortality have clearly emerged and it is critical that the wider scientific community examines novel treatments by sex-disaggregated analysis to ensure that they are safe and effective in both men and women.

Throughout her career, Dr. Wolfe has been a champion of promoting

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neurodiverse and gender intelligent teams. She has had leadership roles in multiple professional development organizations at the regional and national level. At Baystate Health, she has served as Vice-Chair of Women Advancing and Achieving in Medicine (now BWIMS), created and directed an annual Women in Medicine regional conference, and helped create Speak UP, a six-month public speaking development program geared towards women in academic medicine. At the national level she was a 2013 Fellow in the Impact Center's Women in Executive Leadership Program and has held numerous positions within the Academy of Women in Academic Emergency Medicine including participating on the executive committee and chairing both the wellness and regional conferences subcommittees. Through these connections, she has helped to develop multiple educational opportunities targeted to the professional development of women in emergency medicine.

**Peter K. Lindenauer, MD, MSc, MHM, Assistant Dean for Population Health and Professor of Medicine; Mihaela Stefan, MD, PhD, Associate Professor of Medicine; Tara C. Lagu, MD, MPH, Associate Professor of Medicine; Quinn R. Pack, MD, MSc, Associate Professor of Medicine; and Victor Pinto-Plata, MD, MA, Associate Professor of Medicine**



Congratulations to **Peter K. Lindenauer, MD, MSc, MHM**, Assistant Dean for Population Health and Professor of Medicine, and his team on the publication of “Association Between Initiation of Pulmonary Rehabilitation After Hospitalization for COPD and 1-Year Survival Among Medicare Beneficiaries” in *The Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)* in May 2020.

The article described the association between initiation of pulmonary rehabilitation (a structured exercise and education program) and survival of patients with advanced lung disease. Investigators demonstrated that patients enrolled in rehabilitation after a hospitalization lived longer than those who did not. These findings support current guideline recommendations for pulmonary rehabilitation after hospitalization for COPD, although further research is still needed.

Under the leadership of study co-author, Dr. Victor Pinto Plata, Baystate Health operates three Pulmonary Rehabilitation (PR) programs at Baystate Medical Center, Baystate Franklin Medical Center, and Baystate Noble Hospital that care for hundreds of patients with COPD each year. Unfortunately, study results showed that very few patients enroll in these types of programs despite apparent mortality benefit. In collaboration with colleagues at the University of Michigan and the University of Massachusetts Medical School's Worcester campus, Baystate investigators are currently preparing a grant proposal to study novel strategies for enhancing patient participation.

Additional authors on this paper include Penelope S. Pekow, PhD, Research Assistant Professor of Biostatistics at UMass Amherst and Senior Biostatistician at UMMS-Baystate; Kathleen M. Mazor, EdD, Professor of Medicine at UMMS; UMMS-Baystate research staff Aruna Priya, MA, MSc and Kerry A. Spitzer, PhD, MPA; as well as Richard ZuWallack, MD of Saint Francis Hospital in Hartford, CT.

Citation: Lindenauer PK, Stefan MS, Pekow PS, et al. Association Between Initiation of Pulmonary Rehabilitation After Hospitalization for COPD and 1-Year Survival Among Medicare Beneficiaries. *JAMA*. 2020;323(18):1813–1823. doi:10.1001/jama.2020.4437



## Amir Lotfi, MD, FSCAI

Congratulations to **Amir Lotfi, MD, FSCAI**, Associate Professor of Medicine at University of Massachusetts Medical School-Baystate and interventional cardiologist at Baystate Health, who served as Chair of the writing group that recently published the Expert Consensus Statement on Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest for the Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions (SCAI). The statement makes recommendations for managing patients with out-of-hospital cardiac arrest (OHCA) and was published last month in *Catheterization and Cardiovascular Interventions*, the official journal of SCAI. Dr. Lotfi and his colleagues also presented the guidelines during the SCAI 2020 Scientific Sessions Virtual Conference in May 2020. The goal of the consensus statement is to increase standardized language and streamline care for OHCA in order to improve patient outcomes.

OHCA is a significant public health issue throughout the country and the region with very high mortality and morbidity. According to Dr. Lotfi, OHCA affects 347,000 people annually with only a 10% survival rate in the United States. "Two out of three cardiac arrests of OHCA happen at home. This document is centered on evidence-based and patient-oriented management to assess and treat those with OHCA," said Dr. Lotfi.

Citation: Catheter Cardiovasc Interv 2020 May 14. doi: 10.1002/ccd.28990. Online ahead of print.



## JULY 2020



### Kelly M. Tyler, MD, FACS, FASCRS

Congratulations to **Dr. Kelly Tyler**, Associate Professor of Surgery at UMMS-Baystate, for her recent appointment to the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery (JOGS)*. JOGS is a peer-reviewed journal that describes latest developments in gastrointestinal surgery and is the official publication of The Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract (SSAT). Dr. Tyler will serve on the Editorial Board from June 2020 through June 2024.

## AUGUST 2020

### Reham Shaaban, DO

Congratulations to **Reham Shaaban, DO**, Assistant Professor of Medicine and Program Director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program at UMMS-Baystate, for her appointment to the Board of Directors for the Alliance of Independent Academic Medical Centers (AIAMC). The AIAMC is a national organization of independent teaching hospitals committed to delivering exceptional patient care through education and innovation.

Dr. Shaaban has been an active AIAMC member for 8 years and has participated in various national initiatives within the organization. Beginning April 2020, she will serve a 3-year term on the Board of Directors. In this role, she will advise, govern, and assist with the leadership and general promotion of the AIAMC to ensure the organization meets its mission and serves the needs of its members.

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To be selected as a Board member of the AIAMC, nominees must be employees of a current Alliance member in good standing and in a senior management position at their institution. Individuals may be nominated by any Alliance member institution, their peers, or self-nominated.

“This Board appointment is a great honor to continue active involvement and have a voice to keep Baystate’s legacy alive within the organization and also to advocate for exceptional patient care, safety and educational innovation,” said Dr. Shaaban.

## SEPTEMBER 2020



### Robert A. Baldor, MD, FAAFP

**Dr. Robert Baldor**, founding Chair for the UMMS-Baystate Department of Family Medicine (FM) and Professor of Family Medicine, has recently received two grants from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) that will enhance medical education in the Pioneer Valley.

A \$750,000 Health Research and Services Administration (HRSA) grant will support the new FM residency program by funding faculty development, innovative curriculum, and training of family physicians in longitudinal and comprehensive primary care for people of all ages and genders with an emphasis on disease prevention and health promotion. The three-year residency will be based at Baystate Franklin Medical Center (BFMC) in Greenfield, MA. Four FM residents will be recruited annually and welcomed to the Greenfield community starting in July 2022.

Dr. Baldor has also received a second grant, worth \$100,000, from the Area Health Education Center (AHEC). The statewide Massachusetts Area Health Education Center (MassAHEC) is based in the Department of Family Medicine & Community Health at the main UMass Medical School campus in Worcester under the direction of Linda Cragin, MS. Dr. Baldor’s award

supports a new rural AHEC at Baystate Franklin Medical Center (BFMC) led by Project Coordinator, Justin Ayala, and will allow medical students in UMMS-Baystate’s PURCH program exposure to social determinants of health impacting local communities in urban and rural locations. Experience in such environments has been shown to be a key factor in medical students’ choice to work in under-served areas upon completion of their training. The FM residency will also serve as an opportunity for PURCH students to continue to learn about and deliver rural health care during their graduate medical education.

## NOVEMBER 2020

### Raquel Belforti, DO, MS

**Raquel Belforti, DO, MS**, Assistant Professor of Medicine, Associate Program Director of the Internal Medicine Residency, and Internal Medicine Clerkship Director at UMMS-Baystate, was featured on a recent episode of *The Medicine Mentors* podcast. According to *The Medicine Mentors* website, the mission of this national podcast is to “create a platform for top physician mentors to share key insights, traits, and best practices based on their experiences to guide medical students and residents.”

Kush Gupta, MD, one of the podcast founders, interviewed Dr. Belforti in an episode entitled “A Mindful Approach to Patient Care.” During the conversation, Dr. Belforti highlighted the importance of providing patient-centered care, being mindful

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at the bedside, and listening to patients' stories. She also shared her personal experiences, how much she values being a part of Baystate Health, and offered insights around mentorship and professional development. Furthermore, Dr. Belforti emphasized Baystate's longstanding commitment to all levels of learners, innovation and education, and a culture of mutual support.

Dr. Belforti completed her residency training in internal medicine at Baystate Health in 2008 and has been a medical educator here for 12 years.

## DECEMBER 2020



### Abraham Thomas, MD, MPH

**Dr. Abraham Thomas**, Department Chair and Professor of Medicine at UMMS-Baystate, has been selected to receive the 2021 Eric G. Neilson, MD Leadership in Specialty Internal Medicine Award from the Association of Specialty Professors (ASP). ASP is a subdivision of the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine (AAIM) and represents fellowship program directors, division chiefs, and faculty physicians from medical schools and teaching hospitals across the United States and Canada.

The Eric G. Neilson, MD Leadership in Specialty Internal Medicine Award recognizes an individual who has had significant influence on the realm of internal medicine. The recipient is selected by the ASP council, with special consideration given to each candidates' overall contributions as well as their involvement in ASP and support of its mission.

Dr. Thomas has been a member of AAIM since 2007, served on the AAIM Board of Directors from 2016-2019, and was President of ASP from 2017-2018. The award will be presented to him at ASP's virtual Academic Internal Medicine Week meeting in April 2021.

### Matthew Sadof, MD

**Matthew Sadof, MD**, Associate Professor of Pediatrics at UMMS-Baystate, recently served as senior author of "Lessons Learned, Best Practices: Care Coordination for Children with Medical Complexity," published in *Pediatric Annals*. This paper was part of a special issue on complex care and described a family-centered model of care coordination for children with complex medical conditions. The article also highlighted funding challenges for these services and addressed pandemic-related concerns.

Dr. Sadof has spent nearly two decades working with families of children with multiple health problems requiring frequent healthcare visits and is a nationally-recognized leader in his field. He has combined his experience of running a federally-funded coordination program for children requiring complex medical care and the Western Massachusetts Consortium for Children with Special Needs to create a family-centered road map for healthcare delivery.

Congratulations Dr. Sadof!



Citation: Maypole J, Gavin T, deBanate M, Sadof M "Lessons Learned, Best Practices, Care Coordination for Children with Medical Complexity", *Pediatric Annals*, 2020 vol.49(11) pp. e-457-e466

# BAYSTATE-GENERATED COVID-19 SCHOLARSHIP

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