

## Upcoming Meetings

-American College of Physicians Annual Meeting, April 16–18, 2026, San Francisco, CA: <https://annualmeeting.acponline.org/>

-Society for General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting, May 6–9, 2026, Washington, DC: <https://annualmeeting.sгим.org/>



## Scholarly Activities Newsletter



## Publications, Projects, and Updates

•Please join us for our **brown bag research and scholarly activities interest group meetings**. Meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month from 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM on Zoom. Join members of the Research Committee for an informal chat about ideas for projects and collaborations. Whether you are just getting your feet wet or are passionate about research, all are welcome! Please check the Zoom link sent by Nerissa Leonardo each month for the meeting invitation.

### •2026 Southwest Regional Society of General Internal Medicine Meeting Posters, January 2026, Albuquerque, New Mexico:

-**Dr. Deanna Hill, Dr. Armelia Sani, Dr. Jessica Chen, Dr. Miriam Hakim, Dr. Megha Shankar, Dr. Tejpreet Nikai**, and colleague: "No Man's Land: Shedding Light on Male Breast Cancer and Social Determinants of Health" (won third place clinical vignette poster)

-**Dr. Tanner Slayden, Dr. Ottar Lunde**, and **Dr. Deanna Hill**: "Promoting Primary Care: A Novel Third-Year Medical Student General Internal Medicine Mini-Clerkship Utilizing a One-Minute Preceptor Model"

-**Dr. Stacey Charat, Dr. Megha Shankar**, and colleagues: "A Call to Action for Internal Medicine Trainees: Establishing a Multi-Institutional California State Legislative Advocacy Conference"

-**Dr. Miriam Hakim, Dr. Jessica Chen, Dr. Armelia Sani, Dr. Tejpreet Nakai, Dr. Megha Shankar**, and **Dr. Steven Li**: "Cured by the Zombie Fungus? A Case of Mushroom-Derived Treatment for Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL)"

-**Dr. Megha Shankar** and colleagues: "Stepping Stone to Trauma-Informed Cervical Cancer Screening: Implementing Primary HPV Testing in an Urban, Academic Medical Center"

-**Dr. Jennifer Deconde, Dr. Bernice Ruo**, and colleagues: "When the Headache Is More Than a Migraine: An Uncommon Cause of Temporal Pain," "Migratory Arthralgias: A Crohn's Case Beyond the Gut"

-**Dr. Jessica Chen** and colleagues: "Exploring a Post-Viral Phenomenon in the Pathogenesis of Achalasia: Insights from a Clinical Case," "Exploring

## Resources for Scholarly Activities

-Poster printing resources: [UCSD campus printing](#)  
[Scientific poster printing](#)  
 \*Some conference organizations (e.g., American Diabetes Association) may offer poster printing & delivery directly to the conference

-The CREST program provides training in clinical research.  
<https://actri.ucsd.edu/centers-services/portfolio/education/crest/index.html>

-The Annals of Internal Medicine has an online open access journal for **publication of clinical cases**.  
<https://www.acpjournals.org/journal/aimcc/about-us>

-UCSD provides free and discounted **software** for scholarly activities.  
<https://blink.ucsd.edu/technology/computers/software-acms/available-software/index.html>

the Role of COVID-19 in the Pathogenesis of Gastroparesis: Insights from a Clinical Case," "Not All Toe Numbness Is Created Equal: A Case of Toe Numbness in a Healthy Male," "Electrically Shocking Labs: Transient AST Elevation Associated with Electrical Muscle Stimulation Training"

-**Dr. Natalie Prussak** and **Dr. Jessica Chen**: "A Silent Gut: Unmasking Celiac Disease Through Anemia and Transaminitis"

-**Dr. Jennifer Deconde** and **Dr. Jessica Chen**: "Progressive Weakness in a 60-year-old Male with Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy"

-**Dr. Ryan Moran, Dr. Jessica Chen**, and colleague: "Hidden in the CBC: Macrocytosis as the First Sign of AML"

-**Dr. Andrew Dang** and **Dr. Jessica Chen**: "A Case of Progressive Digital Ulcers"

-**Dr. Unna Albers** and colleagues: "Beyond the Headache: Abdominal Pain as an Initial Manifestation of Large Vessel Giant Cell Arteritis," "Oral Ulcer or Something More? Lessons from a Case Report of Glossopharyngeal Zoster Sine Herpete Presenting with Scalp Neuralgia," "When Meals Meet Motion: Diagnosing Food-Dependent Exercise-Induced Anaphylaxis (FDEIA) in an Older Adult," "Rash to Retention: A Rare Manifestation of Varicella Zoster," "A Rash to Weakness: Uncovering Varicella-Zoster Myelitis"

-**Dr. Melissa Wong** and **Dr. Unna Albers**: "Implementation of an Innovative Billing and Coding Curriculum in Internal Medicine Resident Clinic"

-**Dr. Pearl Yu** and colleagues: "A Case of Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma Presenting as Suspected Primary Lung Cancer: Diagnostic Clarification via Molecular Profiling," "Beyond Fibrosis: When MASH Skips Cirrhosis"

-**Dr. Bernice Ruo, Dr. Ruth Abeles, Dr. Tanner Slayden**, and colleagues: "Escape the OR: Learning the Basics of Preoperative Medicine" (workshop)

•**Dr. Deanna Hill and colleagues** published the article "[Fibromyalgia: Update on Pathogenesis and Management](#)," in the *European Journal of Rheumatology* in 2025.

•**Dr. Megha Shankar** and colleagues published an article, "[Presence 5 for Trauma Informed Care: Teaching Tangible Practices Towards Bidirectional Healing in Undergraduate Medical Education](#)," in *BMC Medical Education* in 2026.

•**Dr. Eduardo Grunvald, Dr. Ruth Abeles, Dr. Heather Hofflich, Dr. Ottar Lunde**, and colleagues from hepatology co-authored the article, "[Semaglutide versus Placebo in NIT-Assessed MASH: A Multicenter Randomized Placebo-Controlled Trial \(SAMARA\)](#)" in *Alimentary Pharmacology and Therapeutics* in 2026.

•**Dr. Eduardo Grunvald** and colleagues from nine other medical

schools published, "Uncovering Gaps in Obesity Medicine Competencies: Insights from Ten U.S. Medical Schools" in *Medical Science Educator* in 2026.

•With colleagues from University of Alberta, **Dr. Eduardo Grunvald, Dr. Jennie Wei, Dr. Ottar Lunde, Dr. Jennifer Deconde, and Dr. Neil Farber** co-authored an oral poster presentation at the 24th Annual Hawaii International Conference on Educations in January 2026 entitled, "Changing Internal Medicine Residents' Attitudes Towards Managing People with Obesity Using an Interactive Educational Session and Embedded Real-Life Patients' Experiences."

•**Dr. David Bittleman** had the manuscript, "Maybe I Should Have Taken the Fork," accepted for publication in *Annals of Family Medicine* (anticipated June–July 2026).

•**Dr. Crystal Cené** was featured on the "Boomers Today" podcast to talk about her research related to social isolation as a risk factor for death and cardiovascular disease. She also published an op-ed, "The Surprising Parallels Between Love and Good Medicine," in the *San Diego Union-Tribune* on doctor-patient communication and her general experiences as a primary care physician. Dr. Cené and colleagues also published the article, "Building Capacity Among Health System Leaders to Dismantle Structural Racism and Advance Health Equity," in *Health Equity* in 2026.

## Making Connections



•As discussed at recent GIM forums, if you have ongoing or new collaborative research projects, please add them to this shared [sheet](#).

•Please contact any of the Research Committee members at the email address(es) below if you would like to chat about research or scholarly activities. We are here to help! If you have updates on your scholarly activities that you would like to share, please email **Dr. Melinda Chen**.

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