

FROM THE REGIONS

Northwest Regional SGIM Meeting 2014: Teaching, Patient-centered Outcomes, and Clinical Care

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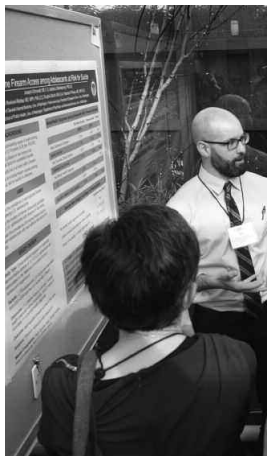
The Northwest chapter of SGIM opened the year in style at the elegant Hotel 1000 in downtown Seattle with the annual regional meeting on February 7, 2014. With a diverse, increasing number of participants from Boise, Seattle, Tacoma, Spokane, and Portland, we have outgrown the capacity of our previous venue near the University of Washington campus.

An unusually severe winter snowstorm hit Portland and southwest Washington the day before the meeting, making Interstate 5 nearly impassable. Still, many members managed the hazardous journey from Portland or, in one case, improvised a video-conference for the co-leaders of the patient-centered medical home workshop.

Bookending the meeting were our annual clinical updates. Matthew Hollon, MD, MPH (Spokane, WA), and Mary Pickett, MD (Portland, OR), jumpstarted the program with the Update in Ambulatory Medicine, navigating through new guidelines and risks of commonly used drugs. Susan Hunt, MD (Seattle, WA), concluded the day with material that she and Courtland Childers, MD (Portland, OR), developed for the Update in Hospital Medicine, discussing controversies surrounding treatments of acute stroke and hypertension.

We had two outstanding plenary sessions at this year's meeting. Dawn Dewitt, MD, MSc (Vancouver, BC), inspired us to activate and observe learners based on her worldwide experience in different educational settings. Additionally, David Hickam, MD, MPH (Washington, DC), from the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) imparted guidance on

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writing successful applications for PCORI-funded research. Martha Gerrity, MD, MPH, PhD (Portland, OR, and SGIM treasurer-elect), and Melissa Hagman, MD (Boise, ID, and Northwest SGIM regional president), gave the national and regional updates over lunch, discussing SGIM's focus on the regions, communication, technology, and SGIM's advocacy efforts.

Along with these sessions, the meeting included five workshops, a poster session, and the always-popular oral clinical vignette presenta-

tions from associates. We received a total of 70 submissions from around the region. Winners of the poster and vignette session were Adam Rodman, MD (Best Clinical Vignette Poster); Joseph Simonetti, MD (Best Research Abstract Poster); Tiffany Chen, MD (Best Clinical Innovations Poster); and Mitra Barahimi, MD (Best Oral Clinical Vignette). The regional awards were bestowed to Melissa Hagman, MD (Clinician-Educator Award), and Devan Kansagara, MD (Clinician-Investigator Award).

Thank you to all those who attended, our reviewers, the planning committee (Moe Hagman, Bill Weppner, Todd Korthuis, Kay Johnson, Carol Sprague, Betsy Haney, Susan Merel, Paula Wichienkuer, Chris Wong, Scott Smith, Julie Silverman, Danielle Orchard), the national office support (Katherin Cooper, Tracey Pierce, Kay Ovington), and all our judges and distinguished faculty.

See you in 2015 in Portland!

SGIM