

FROM THE SOCIETY

The LGBT Health Interest Group

Rita Lee, MD, and Douglas Olson, MD

Dr. Lee is associate professor in the department of medicine at the University of Colorado, and Dr. Olson is chief medical officer of Norwalk Community Health Center in Norwalk, CT.

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Health Interest Group was formed to support LGBT members of SGIM and those interested in LGBT health and health disparities. Our mission is to provide a safe and supportive forum for social engagement, to facilitate collaboration on LGBT health education and research, and to improve LGBT health disparities.

First and foremost, the LGBT Health Interest Group serves SGIM members by creating a welcoming environment for LGBT, queer, or questioning members and allies. Members have cross-pollinated ideas for improving LGBT health education on their campuses, for advocating for LGBT supportive policies at their home institutions, and for potential research projects. The LGBT Health Interest Group includes the following members:

Rita Lee, MD, is chair of the LGBT Health Interest Group. Dr. Lee is an associate professor at the University of Colorado and faculty in the LEADS (Leadership Education Advocacy Development Scholarship) Track, which prepares students to engage in addressing health disparities at the community level. She serves on the Health Advisory Committee for the LGBT Center of Colorado and has partnered with One Colorado (a statewide advocacy organization) on its Health Steering Committee. Together, they have developed a comprehensive report on the state of LGBT health in Colorado, surveyed provider willingness and capacity to treat LGBT patients, developed an online CME module (somed.ucdenver.edu/cme/LGBTCME.html), and

are currently undertaking a state-wide survey on transgender health.

Douglas Olson, MD (@DoctorOlson), is chief medical officer of Norwalk Community Health Center in Norwalk, CT. In addition to clinical care and administration, Dr. Olson is responsible for all quality improvement and health disparity reduction activities at all health center access points. He and his SGIM colleagues have presented at national SGIM meetings on LGBT-centric topics.

Ida Bernstein is a second-year student at Harvard Medical School (HMS). She was an Academic Year Scholar with the HMS Center for Primary Care. This program supported a year of full-time work on the TransPrev study at Fenway Health, focusing on cervical cancer prevention in individuals on the FTM spectrum. She currently serves on the HMS LGBT Advisory Committee.

Harvey Makadon, MD, is director of the National LGBT Health Education Center, clinical professor of medicine at the Harvard Medical School (HMS), and a member of the division of general medicine at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston. Dr. Makadon was the lead editor of *The Fenway Guide to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Health*, published by the American College of Physicians in 2008, and has written numerous peer-reviewed articles and chapters related to LGBT health as well as articles for popular media. He served on the Committee on LGBT Health Issues and Research

Gaps and Opportunities for the Institute of Medicine's 2011 report, *The Health of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender People: Building a Foundation for Better Understanding*.

Megan McNamara, MD, MSc, is a primary care provider at the Louis Stokes Cleveland VAMC and associate professor of medicine at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. She specializes in women's health care with an emphasis on contraception and hormone therapy. She provides primary care for transgender veterans at the Louis Stokes Cleveland VAMC and is interested in medical education about transgender care.

Ryan Nall, MD, is a graduate of the University of Florida College of Medicine. He completed his internal medicine residency at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center where he also served as the chief resident for primary care. During residency, Dr. Nall learned about LGBT health disparities through his continuity clinic experience at Fenway Community Health. He is currently an assistant professor of medicine in the division of general internal medicine at the University of Florida, where he serves as assistant clerkship director for the third-year ambulatory clerkship.

Viraj Patel, MD, MPH, is an assistant professor at Montefiore Medical Center/Albert Einstein College of Medicine, at the Bronx, NY, where he has active research programs focusing on using social

continued on page 2

FROM THE SOCIETY

continued from page 1

media and other technologies for HIV prevention and linkage-to-care interventions for men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender populations in New York City and in India. He also teaches on LGBT health disparities and clinical care to medical students and residents.

Jennifer Potter, MD, is associate professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School, director of women's health programs at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Fenway Health (BIDMC/FH), and a member of the Association of American Med-

ical Colleges LGBT and Disorders of Sexual Development-affected Patient Care Committee. Dr. Potter was recently named associate editor for the MedEdPORTAL LGBTQI collection. She participates in other national collaborations, including the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics Women's Health Care Competencies for Medical Students Task Force, the Committee to Advance the Health of Minority Women of the Harvard Center of Excellence in Women's Health, and the Women with Disabilities Education Project.

Alexia M. Torke, MD, MS, is associate professor of medicine in the department of general medicine and geriatrics at Indiana University School of Medicine and associate director of the Indiana University Center for Aging Research, Regentrief Institute, Inc. She also directs the ethics fellowship at the Fairbanks Center for Medical Ethics at Indiana University Health. Dr. Torke's research focuses on decision making for seriously ill older adults, including ethical, communication, and religious and spiritual aspects of decision making. *SGIM*