

## TASK FORCE UPDATE

## Updates: Geriatrics Task Force and Geriatrics Interest Group

Seki Balogun, MBBS, FACP; Nancy Schoenborn, MD; Lee A. Lindquist, MD, MPH, MBA

*Dr. Balogun (sab2s@hscmail.mcc.virginia.edu) is an associate professor and director, Geriatrics Fellowship Program in the Division of General Medicine, Geriatrics and Palliative Care at University of Virginia Health System, Charlottesville, VA. Dr. Schoenborn (nancyli@jhmi.edu) is an assistant professor in the Division of Geriatric Medicine and Gerontology in the Department of Medicine at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and chair of the Geriatric Interest Group. Dr. Lindquist (LAL425@northwestern.edu) is Section Chief of Geriatrics and associate professor of medicine at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. She is chair of the Geriatrics Task Force.*

**T**he Geriatrics Task Force (GTF) and Geriatrics Interest Group (GIG) continue to promote clinical practice, education, and research in geriatrics while actively facilitating collaborations between geriatrics and general medicine. The GTF also partners with other large organizations, such as American Geriatrics Society (AGS), The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine (AMDA), and American College of Surgeons (ACS), to impact the care of seniors nationally. One product of our collaborations is the SGIM-AMDA-AGS Consensus Best Practice Recommendations for Transitioning Patients' Healthcare from Skilled Nursing Facilities to the Community published in JGIM this year, which is setting the stage for improving quality efforts nationally. Partnering with

the ACS, the SGIM GTF is also a stakeholder in the Coalition for Quality in Geriatric Surgery to improve the care of surgical services for seniors.

This year, we had the distinct pleasure of welcoming Dr. Richard Hodes as our distinguished professor in geriatrics for the 2017 annual SGIM meeting. Dr. Hodes is the director of the National Institute on Aging (NIA) at the National Institute of Health and has focused his career on aging research including studies on the genetics and biology of aging and Alzheimer's Dementia. For his keynote presentation, "NIA and You: Collaborating to Improve Care for Older Adults," Dr. Hodes discussed scientific advances and research opportunities focused on improving the medical care of older adults. In addition, elaborated on re-

search opportunities, active funding announcements, practical advice, and mentoring during the geriatrics interest group discussion session immediately following the keynote address. Dr. Patricia Harris led a walking tour of posters on aging/end-of-life care and provided critical commentary on clinical and educational research projects.

The Geriatric Interest Group continues to grow and is now serving 68 members. You can find us on GIM Connect. The community has been a tremendous resource for facilitating the development of trainees and junior faculty. Member collaborations have led to several successful workshop presentations at SGIM annual meetings. We enthusiastically welcome new members!