



Issue 23, June 2023



Edward T.H. Yeh, MD, FACC

## Message from the Chairman

The American College of Physicians (ACP) is the most prominent society of internal medicine specialists and subspecialists. With 160,000 members in countries across the globe, ACP is the largest medical-specialty society in the world. I would like to celebrate the induction of Dr. Omar Atiq as President of ACP in the April Annual ACP meeting in San Diego. Please joining me in congratulating Dr. Atiq for his impressive accomplishment and wish him success in leading the most important society for internal medicine specialists and subspecialists.

## Omar Atiq, M.D., FACP to lead ACP as President



Dr. Atiq is named President of the American College of Physicians (ACP), representing internal medicine physicians, related subspecialists, and medical students.

As a long time, active member of the ACP, Dr. Atiq previously served as a member of the ACP's Board of Regents and was appointed Governor of the Arkansas Chapter of ACP. This is in addition to his time served as Chair of ACP's Health and Public Policy Committee and as well as serving as the Vice-Chair for ACP's Ethics, Professionalism and Human Rights Committee. Since 1993, Dr. Atiq has been a Fellow of the ACP (FACP). The honorary designation of Fellowship recognizes the ongoing individual service and contributions to the practice of medicine.

Included among Dr. Atiq' s many other contributions to the medical community is his time served on the Arkansas State Medical Board and as president of the Arkansas Medical Society.

Dr. Atiq earned his medical degree from the Khyber Medical College, University of Peshawar, Pakistan. He is board certified in medical oncology, hematology and internal medicine. Here at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Dr. Atiq holds a primary appointment in the department of Internal Medicine as a Professor in the division Hematology Oncology and a secondary appointment at the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute with Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery.

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### **Keyur Vyas, M.D. to start term as ACP Governor**



Last year, Dr. Keyur Vyas was selected as the Governor-elect for the Arkansas Chapter of the American College of Physicians. This month he takes over the role of Governor.

Dr. Vyas has been active within the ACP both at the state level and nationally. He has served as Co-Chair for the Scientific Meeting Program Planning committee, a member of the Governor's Council, and a Presentation Mentor/Moderator for the Scientific Meeting Associates for the Arkansas Chapter. Nationally, he served as a member of the Immunization Technical Advisory committee.

Congratulations, Dy. Vyas! We look forward to seeing you bring your leadership across the state.

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### **Riley Lipschitz, M.D. elected to AMS Board of Trustees**



Dr. Riley Lipschitz has been elected to the Arkansas Medical Society Board of Trustees for a two year term starting in May. There are currently 36 District Trustees representing ten geographic areas of the state. Dr. Lipschitz will join selected other to represent District 8.

The Arkansas Medical Society was formed in 1875 by a group of physicians recognized the need to collaborate and work together collectively in order to improve health care. This society is physician formed and physician led across the state of Arkansas.

Congratulations Dr. Lipschitz!

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## 200th Robotic Bronchoscopy

In less than two years, Dr. Nikhil Meena, Associate Professor in the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, has led the interdisciplinary team to complete over 200 robotic bronchoscopies. The first robotic lung biopsy system was launched in September of 2021. This allows pulmonologists and surgeons to discover, biopsy and the opportunity to immediately treat previously undetectable cancerous nodules in outer areas of the lungs.

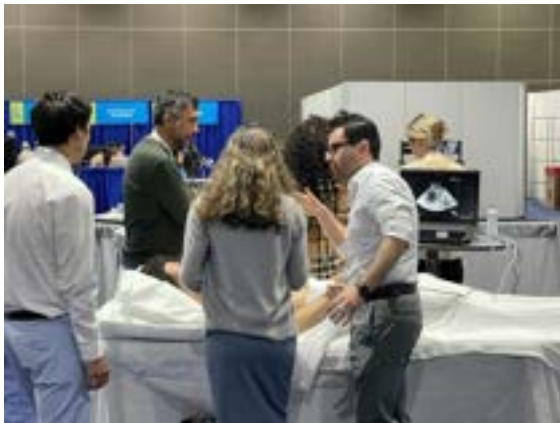
When asked what's next, Dr. Meena states, "the future goals are that we decrease the time to diagnosis and in the future do more single anesthesia events with diagnosis and therapy (lobectomy/ segmentectomy) at the same time".

We all look forward to Dr. Meena's next accomplishment and mile stone!

*(Will the real Dr. Meena, please stand up!)*



*Below Dr. Salah leads the POCUS for Beginners workshop.*



## 2023 Hebert S. Waxman Chief Resident Teaching Scholar

Husam Salah, M.B.B.S., Internal Medicine Chief Resident, was awarded the American College of Physicians' Herbert S. Waxman Chief Resident Teaching Scholarship. This honor recognizes outstanding chief medical residents and covers their expenses to attend ACP's annual Internal Medicine Meeting, where they assist with teaching popular clinical skills workshops under the guidance and mentorship of expert faculty.

Dr. Salah taught multiple sessions on the basics of point-of-care ultrasound to numerous meeting attendees during his time as a Waxman Scholar.

## Resident of the Year Ples Spradley, M.D.



Dr. Ples Spradley was selected by the senior class of 2023 to receive the Resident of the Year award. Chosen by nomination and election by over 700 members of the housestaff, the senior class awarded this impressive designation to Dr. Spradley.

Dr. Spradley received his medical degree here at the University for Arkansas Medical Sciences where he also went on to complete his Internal Medicine residency. For the past year, Dr. Spradley has led as one of Internal Medicines Chief Residents and will be joining the department as an Assistant Professor in the division of General Internal Medicine in July.

Congratulations Dr. Spradley, we are eager to see what you accomplish next!



## Internal Medicine Alumni Association

The Department of Internal Medicine is excited about the launch of an alumni association for all of its former residents, fellows, and faculty, who are automatically granted membership under the leadership of Dr. Ples Spradley. The purpose of the association is to foster a strong connection between the department and its alumni.

These connections will hopefully facilitate additional opportunities for mentorship, employment, and research between alumni and current members of the department. The association will also share regular updates with alumni through this newsletter.

Alumni can now request training verification letters or a copy of their residency certificate, among other services, by visiting the "Alumni Services" section of the new Internal Medicine Alumni Association webpage.

Click Here to visit the web page: [UAMS Internal Medicine Alumni Association](#)





## Shelby Shields

For the past two years Shelby has been the voice behind the IMPact Newsletter as well as supported the administration office. She has assisted on many committees including the Internal Medicine DEI, the Mentoring and the Promotion and Tenure Committee.

Shelby received a Bachelors in Public Health from the University of Arkansas and is graduating with a Masters in Health Administration from the College of Public Health here at UAMS. At the Convocation ceremony on Friday, May 19th, Shelby received the MHA Research Award and was

inducted into the Upsilon Phi Delta Administration Honor Society. In June Shleby will begin a one-year administrative fellowship with the Medical University of South Carolina at their Florence division. Congratulations and safe travels!



## Slithering into Grand Rounds

On April 13th, Dr. Franklin John Gray from the UAMS Division Hospital Medicine led a very interactive Internal Medicine Grand Rounds with assistance from the reptile department of the Arkansas Game Fish Commission. During the grand rounds, Dr. Gray discussed changes in snake bite care from archaic frontier medicine to the current modern treatments. Dr. Gray also discussed the history antivenom and types currently available for use in Arkansas.

Trenton Powell from the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission taught the audience keys ways to identify the venomous snakes of Arkansas, including the live snakes on display during the lecture. Special guests, Dr. Howell Foster of the Arkansas Poison Control Center and Dr. John Bracey of UAMS Ortho Hand Department, added to this informative and fun Internal Medicine Grand Rounds.



*Cottonmouth snakes is the only venomous water snake in Arkansas. When you see a water snake, immediately look at its mouth, If the mouth region has white colored patches or if there is a white patch inside the snake's mouth, it's a cottonmouth snake.*



*Venomous snakes in Arkansas include the Western Diamond-Backed Rattlesnake, the Timber Rattlesnake and the Western Pygmy Rattlesnake*



*A special thank you to Howell Foster, Pharm. D., DABAT, the Director of Arkansas Poison Control Center and Associate Professor, Pharmacy practice and to Trenton Powell with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission for their contributions and educational experience. Both are seen pictured above with Dr. Gray.*

## 8th Annual KIDNEYcon



KIDNEYcon is an annual meeting held in Little Rock with the goal of promoting education and research with an emphasis on trainees and junior faculty. This year attendees could attend a number of many workshops offered such as Urine Microscopy, Kidney Pathology, Point of Care Ultra Sound, Professional Development, Critical Care in Nephrology and Home Dialysis. The festivities concluded with an evening hosted by Dr. John Arthur called Martinis, Meatballs and Mentoring. Attendance included over 100 registrants and an additional 21 vendors that participated in the event.

"Urine in good hands" with this administrative team! A slogan created by Dr. Karakala and proudly sported on the back of this years KIDNEYcon shirt.





Dr. Ples Spradley from UAMS, participates in the Urine Microscopy workshop which was co- led by Dr. Juan Carlos Velez (*pictured on the left*) from Ochsner in New Orleans, LA.

Dr. Arthur (*pictured on the right*) engages attendees with a fun tradition preparing everyone for the 2024 solar eclipse.



A special thank you to Dr. Luis Juncos (*pictured on the left*), Dr. Nithin Karakala and Dr. Manisha Singh for their hard work and dedication to this event.

Next year KIDNEYcon will be held during the Solar Eclipse on April 6-8th. For more pictures and additional information on KIDNEYcon please visit <http://kidneycon.org/>.

### **Thank you for a job well done!**

On behalf of the department of Internal Medicine, we want to thank our student interns for all of their hard work and wish them the very best in their future endeavours!





### **Megan McCarthy**

Megan has aided help in several different areas of Internal Medicine including, Nephrology, Infectious Diseases and Pulmonary and Critical Care.

She received her undergrad from the University of Arkansas and is graduating with a Masters in Health Administration from the College of Public Health here at UAMS.

Pulmonary and Critical Care is welcoming Megan as their newest member of the team as a program Coordinator for the division!



### **Sonalee Kulkarni**

Sonalee assisted with the day to day operations of the fellowship programs for both the Hematology Oncology and Palliative Care.

Sonalee received her Bachelors in Dental Surgery while in India and is graduating with a Masters in Health Administration from the College of Public Health at UAMS.

Fortunately for UAMS, Sonalee is joining the Emergency Medicine department as a GME Program Coordinator. Congrats on your new position!

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**UAMS Summer**

Drive ends  
June 26th!

**CEREAL  
DRIVE**

\$1 =  
1 box

The UAMS Summer Cereal Drive, a partnership with the Arkansas Foodbank, aims to combat childhood hunger during the summer months when food resources for low-income families can be scarce. By collecting donations, the Arkansas Foodbank will provide boxes of cereal to help deliver nutritious breakfast for families in need.

If you would like to donate, there are a few ways you can make a difference:

- Bring your boxes of cereal or monetary donations to Sarah Woodall in S3/12E
- Or you can use the link below to contribute, just be sure to include "Internal Medicine" in the notes.

[HR.UAMS.EDU/UAMS-SUMMER-CEREAL-DRIVE/](https://hr.uams.edu/UAMS-SUMMER-CEREAL-DRIVE/)

Click here to donate: <https://hr.uams.edu/UAMS-SUMMER-CEREAL-DRIVE/>

# Black Men in Medicine:

## A Panel Discussion



**Tuesday, May 30, 2023**

12:15-1:15 p.m.

**UAMS**

Division for Diversity,  
Equity and Inclusion

**Walton Auditorium**

**10<sup>th</sup> floor, UAMS Cancer Institute**

*(Lunch will be served for the first 40 attendees)*



Zoom link

**Moderator:** Sharanda M. Williams MA, BA  
Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and Diversity

### PANEL

**Wayne Bryant Jr., MD, MS**  
Assistant Professor  
Family and Preventive Medicine  
UAMS

**William W. "Sam" Greenfield MD, MBA**  
Professor  
Obstetrics and Gynecology  
UAMS

**Adam B. Johnson MD, PhD**  
Associate Professor  
Otolaryngology  
UAMS/Arkansas Children's Hospital

**John Ukadike DO, MPH**  
PGY-3 Resident  
Family and Preventive Medicine  
UAMS

<https://uams.zoom.us/j/94595057882?pwd=NUcoYVAoM1pqakkzNUpqcmIvbHNNQTog>

The Department of Internal Medicine is the largest department in the College of Medicine at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. The department is home to approximately 150 full-time faculty members, 81 residents, and 68 fellows serving two residency programs and twelve fellowship programs. Dr. Edward T.H. Yeh, a cardiologist and physician/scientist, is a pioneer in the field of onco-cardiology.

Questions, comments, or suggestions for future newsletters? Email Natalie Moore at [NMoore@uams.edu](mailto:NMoore@uams.edu).

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