Introduction

**by W. Robert Taylor, MD, PhD**

Welcome to the second edition of our Divisional Newsletter. This month we have focused on some of the ongoing research accomplishments of members of our division. Emory Cardiology enjoys a very strong international reputation in cardiovascular research that spans the many diverse aspects of cardiology from basic cellular and molecular biology to population-based studies. As highlighted in the newsletter this month, several faculty members have received national recognition for their contributions and our external funding continues to grow with addition of nine new grants in the past two months. Soon to be added to this list is a new NIH Program Project Grant led by Dr. Kathy Griendling. This is the 4th major, multi-investigator grant within our division. Despite these successes, there is much more for us to do in the research arena. One of our most important tasks is to fully integrate our research mission into the teaching and patient care missions of our division. One major characteristic that sets a clinical unit within a university apart from our counterparts in the private healthcare sector is our commitment to scholarly research. At Emory, it is important for all of us to realize that our academic research program is an integral part of our identity and the culture of our division has to continue to evolve such that the tri-partite mission of research, education and patient care is truly a seamless continuum. Perhaps the best evidence of our progress in this area is our annual cardiology trainees’ research symposium. This year’s symposium will be held on June 16th and feature basic, translational and clinical research presentations by students and fellows in the division. I encourage all of you to attend at least a part of this important meeting as we celebrate the accomplishments of the next generation of researchers. It is also a wonderful opportunity to get an overview of some of the outstanding ongoing research in Cardiology. Research is clearly not all that we do. But, it is an important cornerstone of our division that distinguishes us from non-academic clinical practices and provides us with unique opportunities to remain on the forefront of cardiovascular healthcare.

**Fellowship News**

We would like to congratulate our graduating Cardiology fellows! We are proud to have another accomplished group of fellows complete their training this year. A list of graduating fellows along with their new contact information is attached to this newsletter.
Fellowship News Continued…

In other fellowship news, Matthew Janik and Heather Westmoreland will serve as chief fellows for the 2009-2010 academic year. Matt will be primarily based at Emory University Hospital and Heather will be primarily based at Grady Memorial Hospital. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Dalton McLean and David Vadnais for serving as Chief Fellows for the current academic year. Both Dalton and David were outstanding Chief Fellows and we appreciate their efforts over the past year.

Division Highlights

David Harrison, MD, will be honored with the Carl J. Wiggers Award at the American Physiological Society meeting in 2010. The Carl J. Wiggers Award is presented to a scientist who is a Fellow of the Cardiovascular Section of the APS, who has made outstanding and lasting contributions throughout his career to cardiovascular research, and who will bring broader and more international representation to the cardiovascular section meetings. This award is in honor of the Cardiovascular Section’s founder, Carl J. Wiggers.

Arshed Quyyumi, MD, was featured in the WHS Research News April 15, 2009, edition in an article entitled “Infused Bone Marrow Stem Cells Increase Circulation in Heart.” He presented his results on the American College of Cardiology conference in Orlando last March. Heart attack patients treated with stem cells taken from their own bone marrow had increased circulation within the heart in a recent clinical study. The new treatment could potentially reduce long-term complications after severe heart attack. Read the entire story at:

Leslee Shaw, PhD, and Javed Butler, MD, MPH, were selected for the Simon Dack award for their excellence in critical evaluations of manuscripts for the Journal of American College of Cardiology. The editors placed their evaluations at the highest level in terms of critical thinking, constructive comments and value in reaching a decision relative to competing papers. Approximately three individuals of the thousands who review for JACC will receive this award.

Abhinav Goyal, MD, MHS, received the Young Investigator Honorable Mention at the 2009 American College of Cardiology Conference in Orlando. His presentation was entitled “Differential outcomes associated with hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia in acute myocardial infarction.”
Division of Cardiology Teaching Awards
– As selected by Cardiology fellows

- J. Willis Hurst Teaching Award for Excellence in Teaching in Cardiology:
  Andro Kacharava, MD, PhD

- Atlanta VA Medical Center:
  Heather Bloom, MD

- Emory University Hospital - Midtown:
  Dan Sorescu, MD

- Emory University Hospital:
  Allen Dollar, MD

- Grady Memorial Hospital:
  Nanette Wenger, MD

– As selected by Internal Medicine residents
- Excellence in Teaching Award
  Robert Cole, MD

New Faculty Announcement
We are pleased to welcome **Micky Mishra, MD**, to the faculty in the Division of Cardiology this month. Dr. Mishra has joined our faculty from a local private practice in the Atlanta area. She will be based primarily at Emory Johns Creek Hospital. Dr. Mishra received her M.D. degree from the S.C.B. Medical College Hospital in Orissa, India. She then completed an externship in Cardiology and Internal Medicine at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Her residency in Internal Medicine was completed at the Cleveland Clinic. Dr. Mishra completed cardiology and advanced cardiovascular imaging fellowships at Tulane University Medical Center and the Cleveland Clinic. We are happy to have her come to Emory and join the Cardiology faculty.

Reminders

– Cardiology Research Symposium – June 16th – details below

– DOM Grand Rounds – June 23rd – Celebrating Excellence – details below

– Faculty Time Records – Due each month electronically

– RRC Site Visit – Fellowship Programs Accreditation site visits – August 12–14

DOM Grand Rounds – June 23
On Tuesday, June 23, at 7:30 am, R. Wayne Alexander, MD, PhD, will present grand rounds. His topic is “Celebrating Excellence.” This annual event celebrates the Department of Medicine’s success over the previous year. Faculty and teaching awards will be distributed. Please join him in the Emory University Hospital Auditorium.

**EVENT REMINDER**
15th Annual
Cardiology Research Symposium
Emory University
School of Medicine Building
Lecture Hall 120, 8 am-4 pm
Tuesday, June 16, 2009

Newsletter Ideas? Please email kbrill@emory.edu with any suggestions or feedback.
Recent Grants:

Congratulations to faculty and fellows who have published articles and received grants in the past few months. We are proud to have such a productive group! Please let us know about new publications and grants by email at kbrill@emory.edu.

1. Viola Vaccarino, “Sex Differences in Myocardial Ischemia Triggered by Emotional Factors,” NIH, R21 HL093665
2. Michael Davis, “Polyketals to encapsulate a small molecule p38 inhibitor for cardiac regeneration,” NIH R01 HL090601
10. Kreton Mavromatis, “HIV and EPC,” Emory URC/ACTSI Award
16. Habib Samady, “Evaluation of Ischemic Postconditioning in Patients with AMI,” Emory URC/ACTSI Award
Recent Publications

1: **Clinical problem-solving. A red flag.**

2: **Cardiac Complications after Smallpox Vaccination.**

3: **Role of echocardiography in the assessment of myocardial viability.**

4: **Variability in tissue Doppler echocardiographic measures of dyssynchrony is reduced with use of a larger region of interest.**

5: **Oxidative stress and hypertension.**

6: **A diagnostic response of a supraventricular tachycardia to a ventricular premature beat.**

7: **The Right Sided Great Vessels by Cardiac Multidetector Computed Tomography Normative Reference Values among Healthy Adults Free of Cardiopulmonary Disease, Hypertension, and Obesity(1).**

8: **Serum Resistin Concentrations and Risk of New Onset Heart Failure in Older Persons. The Health, Aging, and Body Composition (Health ABC) Study.**

9: **Race, gender, and mortality in adults > or =65 years of age with incident heart failure (from the Cardiovascular Health Study).**

10: **Epidemiology of incident heart failure in a contemporary elderly cohort: the health, aging, and body composition study.**

11: **NADPH oxidases - molecular understanding finally reaching the clinical level?**

12: **Pulmonary arterial hypertension in patients with prior atrial switch procedure for d-transposition of great arteries (dTGA).**

13: **Glucose levels compared with diabetes history in the risk assessment of patients with acute myocardial infarction.**
14: Usefulness of serum high-density lipoprotein cholesterol level as an independent predictor of one-year mortality after percutaneous coronary interventions.
Ghazzal ZB, Dhawan SS, Sheikh A, Douglas JS, Veledar E, Mavromatis K, Pohlel FK, Vaccarino V.
Am J Cardiol. 2009 Apr 1;103(7):902-6. PMID: 19327413

15: Obesity: why be concerned?
Brown WV, Fujioka K, Wilson PW, Woodworth KA.

16: Pacing features that mimic malfunction: a review of current programmable and automated device functions that cause confusion in the clinical setting.
Lloyd MS, El Chami MF, Langberg JJ.
J Cardiovasc Electrophysiol. 2009 Apr;20(4):453-60. PMID: 19347996

17: Baseline fractional flow reserve and stent diameter predict optimal post-stent fractional flow reserve and major adverse cardiac events after bare-metal stent deployment.
Samady H, McDaniel M, Veledar E, De Bruyne B, Pijls NH, Fearon WF, Vaccarino V.
JACC Cardiovasc Interv. 2009 Apr;2(4):357-63. PMID: 19463450

18: Beneficial effects of designed dietary fatty acid compositions on lipids in triacylglycerol-rich lipoproteins among Chinese patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus.
Metabolism. 2009 Apr;58(4):510-8. PMID: 19303972

Int J Cardiol. 2009 Mar 24. PMID: 19321209

20: Markers of inflammation collocate with increased wall stress in human coronary arterial plaque.
Hallow KM, Taylor WR, Rachev A, Vito RP.

21: Combined impact of age and estimated glomerular filtration rate on in-hospital mortality after percutaneous coronary intervention for acute myocardial infarction (from the American College of Cardiology National Cardiovascular Data Registry).
Cardarelli F, Bellasi A, Ou FS, Shaw L, Veledar E, Roe MT, Morris DC, Peterson ED, Klein LW, Raggi P.

22: Transcatheter aortic valve replacement: here and now, but lots to learn.
Block PC.
J Invasive Cardiol. 2009 Mar;21(3):99-100. PMID: 19258638

23: How Long is the Warranty Period for Nil or Low Coronary Artery Calcium in Patients New to Hemodialysis?
Bellasi A, Kooienga L, Block GA, Veledar E, Spiegel DM, Raggi P.

24: Stretch-activated receptors mediate cardiac memory.
Kooshkabadi M, Whalen P, Yoo D, Langberg J.
Recent Presentations at National Meetings

Heart Rhythm Society – May 2009

PO03-46 - New-Onset Atrial Fibrillation Predicts Long Term Mortality after CABG
Mihkael F. El-Chami, MD, Patrick Kilgo, ScD, Vinod Thourani, MD, Omar Lattouf, MD, David B. Delurgio, MD, Angel R. Leon, MD and John D. Puskas, MD. Emory University, Atlanta, GA

AB08-4 - African-Americans with Nonischemic Cardiomyopathy Have More Ventricular Arrhythmias than Caucasians and Have Higher Levels of Inflammatory and Oxidative Stress Markers
Heather L. Bloom, MD, Michael N. Nest, MD, Raul R. Blanco, MD, Ravinder R. Valadri, MD, Irfan Shukrullah, MD, Rebecca Gutmann, RN, BSN, Barry London, MD, PhD, Samuel C. Dudley, MD, PhD and Maziar Zafari, MD, PhD. Emory University School of Medicine; Atlanta VA Medical Center, Atlanta, GA, University of Illinois in Chicago, Chicago, IL, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

PO04-47 - A Risk Index for the Prediction of New Onset Atrial Fibrillation after Cardiac Revascularization Surgery
Mihkael F. El-Chami, MD, Patrick Kilgo, MS, David B. Delurgio, MD, Angel R. Leon, MD and John D. Puskas, MD. Emory University, Atlanta, GA

PO06-52 - QRS Duration is a Predictor of Atrial Fibrillation in Patients with Left Ventricular Dysfunction
Mihkael F. El-Chami, MD, Candace Brancato, PhD, Lynn Brosius, PhD, Heather Bush, MD, David Delurgio, MD and Angel R. Leon, MD. Emory University, Atlanta, GA, Registat, Inc, Lexington, KY, Registrat, Inc and University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY

PO02-140 - Heart Sounds Based Systolic Timing Intervals Measured at the CRT Device Implant Site are Correlated to Ejection Fraction and Stroke Volume
abhiash patangay, MS, Kris Z. Siejko, MS, Ramesh Warair, PhD, Christopher M. Mullin, MS, David M. DeLurgio, MD and Angel R. Leon, MD. Boston Scientific CRM, St Paul, MN, The Integra Group, St Paul, MN, Emory Crawford Long Hospital, Atlanta, GA

MP02-1 - The β2-Adrenergic Receptor Gln27 Polymorphism is Associated With Increased Ventricular Arrhythmias in Patients With Severe Heart Failure
Marwan Refaat, MD, J. Michael Frangiskakis, MD, PhD, Sara Grimley, MD, Rebecca Gutmann, RN, BSN, Heather L. Bloom, MD, Samuel C. Dudley, MD, PhD, Patrick T. Ellinor, MD, PhD, Alaa Shalaby, MD, Raul Weiss, MD, Dennis M. McNamara, MD and Barry London, MD, PhD. Cardiovascular Institute, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA, Division of Cardiology, Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA, Section of Cardiology, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL, Division of Cardiology, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA, Division of Cardiovascular Medicine, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology Conference 2009

P163 - Partial Ligation of Carotid Artery Induces Flow Reduction and Reversal, Causing Rapid Atherosclerosis Development in a NADPH Oxidase-Dependent Manner
Douglas Nam, Chih-Wen Ni, Amir Rezvan, Hanjoong Jo, Emory Univ, Atlanta, GA

P574 - NOX4 Interactive Protein, NOXR1, Inhibits Vascular Smooth Muscle Cell Migration by Affecting the Focal Adhesion Turnover
Srinivasa Raju Datla, Alicia N Lyle, Kathy K Griendling, Emory Univ, Atlanta, GA

P449 - Receptors for Advanced Glycation Endproducts Cause Decreased Collateral Vessel Formation in Diabetes
Dhivya Gupta, Catherine Norton, Emory Univ, Atlanta, GA; Robert E Guldberg, Georgia Inst of Technology, Atlanta, GA; W Robert Taylor, Emory Univ, Atlanta, GA

American Society of Echocardiography– June 2009

(PE-04/PE-04) Pulmonary Valve Replacement and Right Ventricular Function in Patients with Repaired Tetralogy of Fallot
Andreas P. Kalogeropoulos, Mishal Abdullah, Athanasios Anadiots, Vasiliki Georgiopoulou, Maria-Alexandra Pernetz, Michael McConnell, William Border, Javed Butler, Wendy Book, Ronald Joyner, Randolph P. Martin. Emory University, Atlanta, GA

(P3-17/P3-17) Incremental Value of Echocardiography Over the Seattle Heart Failure Score for Risk Prediction in Patients with Advanced Heart Failure
Syed A. Agha, Andreas P. Kalogeropoulos, Jeffrey Shih, Vasiliki Georgiopoulou, Grigoris Giamouzis, Perry Aranado, Mishal Abdullah, Amna Altaf, Andrew L. Smith, Javed Butler, Randolph P. Martin. Emory University, Atlanta, GA

(P3-71/P3-71) Reverse Left Ventricular Remodeling in Patients with Pre-existing Left Ventricular Systolic Dysfunction after Successful Treatment with the MitraClip® System
Damon M. Kwan¹, Blase A. Carabello², Saibal Kar³, Tasneem Z. Naqvi⁴, Allan Schwartz⁵, Richard Smalling⁶, Catalin Loghin⁶, Kira Sagar⁷, Jason H. Rogers⁸, D. Scott Lim⁹, David Warth¹⁰, Paul Grayburn¹¹, Stamatis Lerakis¹², Steven Bailey¹³, Ted Feldman¹⁴, Elyse Foster¹⁴, on behalf of the EVEREST investigators¹. 
**Graduating Fellows – 2009**

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<tr>
<th>General Cardiology</th>
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<td>Jacob Nathan Blatt, MD</td>
<td>Electrophysiology Fellowship</td>
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<td>Emory University School of Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>1364 Clifton Road NE, Suite F-414</td>
<td>Atlanta, GA 30322</td>
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<td>Tel. 404-273-2573</td>
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<td>Abdulrahman Doughan, MD</td>
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<td>Atlanta Heart Associates</td>
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<td>350 Country Club Drive, Ste. A</td>
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<td>Stockbridge, GA 30281</td>
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<td>Tel. 770-692-4000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Hoskins, MD</td>
<td>Electrophysiology Fellowship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maan Jokhadar, MD</td>
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<td>Zahid A. Junagadhwalla, MD</td>
<td>Interventional Cardiology Fellowship</td>
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<td>Ioanna S. Kosmidou, MD</td>
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<td>Tel. 770-941-7741</td>
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<td>Dale Yoo, MD</td>
<td>Electrophysiology Fellowship</td>
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| Payam Mehranpour, MD                                                               | Interventional Cardiology Fellowship |
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| Puja Mehta, MD                                                                    | Women’s Heart Disease Fellowship     |
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