

# GASTROENTEROLOGY FELLOWSHIP

## MESSAGE FROM ROBERT M. COBEN, MD

Dear Colleagues:

**Our fellowship program** continues to thrive! We have developed new rotations which include: capsule endoscopy, deep enteroscopy, advanced therapeutic endoscopy, motility, pediatric gastroenterology, colorectal surgery, subspecialty outpatient clinics and quality improvement. Our conference schedule remains robust and outstanding with the addition of guideline and board review conferences. We continue to invite nationally recognized speakers for our GI Grand Rounds and Research conferences and we are looking forward to our 51st James LA Roth Visiting Professor, Arun Sanyal, MD, FASLD, Professor and Chairman of Hepatology at VCU, March 29-30, 2017. I am most proud of our fellow's research accomplishments resulting in publications, posters, and oral presentations at local and national meetings.

Many of our most recent alumni have taken prominent leadership roles within the Division. They include: Jon Fenkel, Director of the Hepatitis C Center; Jesse Civan, Director of the Liver Cancer Center; Dina Haleboua-DeMarzio, Director of the Fatty Liver Center. Dina was also just named the Program Director of our Transplant Hepatology Fellowship. Additional prominent leadership roles within the Division include Chris Henry, Assistant GI Fellowship Program Director, and Stephanie Moleski, Associate GI Fellowship Program Director. Furthermore, Ivan Rudolph was recently honored for his teaching and mentorship of our fellowship alumni and current fellows with a portrait, to be hung in our conference room.

I continue to ask each of you, as former fellows, to let me know about yourselves, your families and continue to be part of **our fellowship program**. I hope that each of you will come back for a visit. We would all love to hear from you and what you are up to! Please send updates to:

Meghan Wilson  
[Meghan.Wilson@jefferson.edu](mailto:Meghan.Wilson@jefferson.edu)

Nicole Eppright  
[Nicole.Eppright@jefferson.edu](mailto:Nicole.Eppright@jefferson.edu)

We had an excellent turnout for our alumni reception at DDW 2016 and hope to see you all again at DDW 2017 in Chicago!!!

Sincerely,

Robert M. Coben, MD  
Associate Professor of Medicine  
Associate Chief for Academic Affairs  
Program Director, Gastroenterology and Hepatology Fellowship Program





Pictured above: Anthony J. DiMarino, Jr., MD  
Chief, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology

“ Not only did I receive an excellent foundation of GI knowledge and procedures at Jefferson, but the fellowship also provided me with the experience of what it's like to be in a private practice. While at Jefferson, I had the opportunity to work at Inspira, formerly Underwood Memorial Hospital, which expanded and diversified my clinical experience as a physician.

In addition to tertiary and common clinical practice care, I was also able to learn about the business side of medicine through Dr. DiMarino's teachings. This approach to education assists those entering both academic practice and private practice by providing them with a more well-rounded education. I was certainly more prepared than I would have been had I made the choice to study elsewhere. I received great endoscopic training and was the first to introduce Argon Plasma Coagulation, Deep Small Bowel Endoscopy and Laser Endoscopy to Berks County – all procedures I had mastered during my training.”

– Louis La Luna, MD '00



**Dr. Louis La Luna**

Dr. Louis La Luna completed his internship, residency, fellowship and advanced therapeutic endoscopy fellowship training at Jefferson, where he received the Outstanding Resident Award ('95). He is on the board of The Pennsylvania Society of Gastroenterology (President 2011-2013), President and Administrative Physician at Digestive Disease Associates (23 provider practice) and is the Medical Director of Berks Center for Digestive Health. He also sits on the boards of Berks Independent Physicians Association (current President), Reading Health Partners (CIN) and Central Pennsylvania Risk Retention Group (medical malpractice).



## 2016-2017 Fellows PGY – 6/3RD YEAR FELLOW

### Natalie Cosgrove, MD

Undergraduate: Bucknell University  
 Medical College: Temple University College of Medicine  
 Internship/Residency: University of Virginia  
 Graduating Plans: Advanced Endoscopy Fellow at Washington University in St. Louis

### Kunjal (Komal) Gandhi, MD

Undergraduate: University of Florida  
 Medical College: University of Florida  
 Internship/Residency: Johns Hopkins Hospital  
 Graduating Plans: Focus in IBD

### Sheela Reddy, MD

3-year combined ABIM pathway

Undergraduate: Barnard College  
 Medical College: Albert Einstein College of Medicine  
 Internship/Residency: Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center  
 Graduating Plans: Pursuing Transplant Hepatology

### Christina Tofani, MD

Undergraduate: La Salle University  
 Medical College: Penn State University College of Medicine  
 Internship/Residency: Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania  
 Graduating Plans: Faculty at Thomas Jefferson University



## GASTROENTEROLOGY AND HEPATOLOGY Division Highlights The Right Care in the Right Place



The Pancreaticobiliary Team and its physicians continue to be at the forefront of cutting-edge care and are currently advancing treatments using minimally invasive procedures to treat cancers of the bile duct and pancreas.

Aside from the Center City and Methodist campuses, the division has six satellite offices spanning Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware. We recently opened a free-standing endoscopy center in Bala Cynwyd.

Our liver program is the oldest in Philadelphia and continues to grow with outcomes that exceed national benchmarks. In 2016, the liver program performed 66 transplants, the largest number of transplants since its inception and, in June of 2016, celebrated its 1,000th liver transplant.

Annually, the Division has five or more physicians named to Castle Connolly and Top Docs in Philadelphia Magazine. Additionally, three to four physicians are named to Top Docs in New Jersey each year.



The Division is home to six Centers of Excellence: the Celiac Center, the Barrett's Esophagus Treatment Center, the Hepatitis C Center, the GI Bleed Center, the Liver-Tumor Center and the Fatty Liver Center.

Pioneered new endoscopic and esophageal technologies including radiofrequency ablation and photodynamic therapy.

Six locations for liver care in Center City, Delaware, Brandywine, Egg Harbor, Voorhees and Abington.



## PGY – 5 / 2ND YEAR FELLOW

### C. Andrew Kistler, MD, PharmD, RPh

Undergraduate/Graduate: Rutgers University, Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy  
Medical College: Rutgers University/University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey - Newark  
Internship/Residency: Thomas Jefferson University Hospital

### Bolin Niu, MD

Undergraduate: Duke University  
Medical College: Yale University School of Medicine  
Internship/Residency: Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania

### Andrew Zabolotsky, MD

Undergraduate: The College of New Jersey  
Medical College: University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey - Newark  
Internship/Residency: Thomas Jefferson University Hospital

### Apeksha Shah, MD

Undergraduate: Drexel University  
Medical College: Drexel University College of Medicine  
Internship/Residency: Thomas Jefferson University Hospital

#### Recent Fellows Publications;

1. Kistler CA, Martin A, Kaplan J, Yoo J, Siddiqui AA. Complications of upper endoscopy and their management. In: Adler DG, editor. Upper Endoscopy for GI Fellows. 1st edition. New York, New York: Springer; In Press 2016
2. Kistler CA, Martin AP, Quirk DM. Inpatient Management of Gastrointestinal Bleeding in Patients Receiving Target Specific Oral Anticoagulants. In: Proceedings from the ACG 2016 Annual Scientific Meeting and Postgraduate Course; October 14-19, 2016; Las Vegas, NV. Abstract P986.
3. Yang JF, Sharaiha RZ, Francis G, Karia K, Kistler CA, et al. Diagnostic accuracy of directed cholangioscopic biopsies and confocal laser endomicroscopy in cytology-negative indeterminate bile duct stricture: a multicenter comparison trial. *Minerva Gastroenterol Dietol.* 2016 Sep;62(3):227-33.
4. Niu B, Haleboua-De Marzio D, Fenkel, J, Herrine S. Obstetricians knowledge and practices regarding chronic hepatitis B in pregnancy. Poster Abstract AASLD Liver Meeting; Boston, MA. Nov 2016
5. Niu, B and Hann, HW. Update on treatment of hepatitis B and prospects for possible cure. *N Am J Med and Sci.* 2016 Jun; 9(1): 17-26.
6. Niu, B and Hann HW. (2016). "Hepatitis B Virus Related Hepatocellular Carcinoma: Carcinogenesis, prevention, and treatment". Book Chapter in *Liver Cancer*. Rijeka, Croatia: InTech.
7. Adler, D.G., Francis, G., Taylor, L.J., McVay, T., Birch, M., Zabolotsky, A., Laique, S. N., Hayat, U., Zhan, T., Siddiqui, A. Clinical outcomes and adverse in patients with bile leaks treated via ERCP: A large multicenter study. *Gastrointestinal Endoscopy.* 2016
8. Cosgrove, N., Siddiqui, A.A., Kistler, C.A., Zabolotsky, A., Ghumman, S., Hayat, U., Laique, S.N., Yang, J.F., Hasan, M.K. Endoscopic mucosal resection of large nonampullary duodenal polyps: technical aspects and long term therapeutic options. *Minerva Gastroenterologica e Dietologica.* 2016, Feb 2.

## PGY – 4/ 1ST YEAR FELLOW

### Andrew Dargan, MD

Undergraduate: University of Arkansas  
Medical College: University of Florida Medical School  
Internship/Residency: Thomas Jefferson University Hospital

### RajaKoteswar Dhanekula, MD

Medical College: Siddhartha Medical College  
Rush University  
Internship/Residency: Abington Hospital  
Hepatology Fellowship: Thomas Jefferson University Hospital

### Gloria Francis, MD

Undergraduate: New York University  
Medical College: New York University School of Medicine  
Internship/Residency: Thomas Jefferson University Hospital

### Mark Malamood, MD

Undergraduate: Villanova University  
Medical College: Albany Medical College Medical School  
Internship/Residency: Temple University

## ADVANCED FELLOWS

### Hepatology Fellow

### Andrew Ofosu, MD, FACP

Undergraduate: University of Ghana  
Medical College: University of Ghana Medical School of Medicine  
Internship/Residency: Medstar Harbor Hospital, Baltimore  
Graduating Plans: Gastroenterology Fellowship Brooklyn Hospital

### Advanced Endoscopy Fellow

### Haroon Shahid, MD

Undergraduate: Rutgers University  
Medical College: University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey - Newark  
Masters in Pharmacology/Human Investigation: Thomas Jefferson University  
Internship/Residency: Thomas Jefferson University Hospital  
Graduating Plans: Advanced Interventional Endoscopy





“Jefferson’s GI Fellowship program offers an academic environment where students continuously advance themselves. As a physician, you’re committed to learning for the rest of your life. I like to say ‘I’m Ivan Rudolph, and I’m a 17-year fellow.’ Jefferson has a lot to offer in terms of complicated gastroenterology cases. We even had a case of *Ascaris* in the bile duct, part of the long list of case conferences with fascinating variety! The fellows (and I) would never get that kind of experience elsewhere.

*In addition to being surrounded by the best and brightest, which I take as a feather in my cap, I get to see my young fellows grow and succeed both intellectually and academically. To be able to participate in that growth is truly a treat. At one time, Dr. Fenkel, Dr. Civan and Dr. Haleboua-DeMarzio were all of my residents. Now, they’re just outside my door doing amazing work, surpassing my knowledge in the areas I taught them. Their success is my success and it’s ever-rewarding. I’m very happy to be here. This is a blessing for me.*”

– Ivan Rudolph, MD, Clinical Assistant Professor and Fellowship Mentor and Clinic Director

Pictured above: Dr. Jonathan Fenkel  
Director, Jefferson Hepatitis C Center  
Associate Medical Director, Liver Transplant Program

# AASLD

## The Liver Meeting Boston - November 11-15, 2016

Presenter:

**Jonathan Fenkel, MD**

*Presentation topics:*

1. Presenting a poster on behalf of a multidisciplinary group from Jefferson, Penn, and Drexel on "Pulse Shaping for Improved Diagnosis of Portal Hypertension Using Subharmonic Aided Pressure Estimation" in a group including Flemming Forsberg, Susan Shamimi-Noori, and Colette Shaw, Jaydev Dave and John Eisenbrey in radiology.
2. Coauthor for Dr. Bolin Niu's poster, "Obstetricians' Knowledge and practices regarding chronic hepatitis B in pregnancy."

This is a collaborative effort led by Dr. Forsberg in Jefferson's Department of Radiology between Jefferson, Penn and Drexel. We hope one day we will be able to estimate the liver's portal pressures non-invasively and replace the current invasive pressure measurements obtained via transjugular approach. Our group has researched the potential for external ultrasound-based subharmonic imaging aided by a bubble contrast agent. We are hopeful this technology will eventually make patient care safer by eliminating the need for invasive, direct pressure measurements.

Presenter:

**Dina Halegoua-De Marzio, MD**

*Presentation topics:*

1. Kushner T, Shaw PA, Kalra A, Magaldi L, Monpara P, Bedi G, Krok K, Centkowski S, Dalldorf K, D'souza J, Halegoua-De Marzio D, Goldberg D, Levine L, Srinivas SK, Lewis JD, Forde K, Lo Re V III. Incidence, Determinants, and Outcomes of Pregnancy-Associated Hepatitis B Flares: A Regional Hospital-Based Cohort Study. AASLD Liver Meeting in Boston, MA, November 2016.
2. Nui B, Halegoua-De Marzio D, Fenkel JM, Herrine SK. Obstetricians' Knowledge and Practices Regarding Chronic Hepatitis B in Pregnancy. AASLD Liver Meeting in Boston, MA, November 2016.
3. Halegoua-De Marzio D (role- Program Chair), Chang, M. Program Director's Workshop. AASLD Liver Meeting, Boston MA, November 13, 2016.

There are 2.2 million people with chronic hepatitis B (HBV) infection in the United States. Despite the availability of a vaccine and hepatitis B immune globulin, HBV vertical transmission may still occur. In pregnant women with high viral loads, third trimester initiation of antiviral agents can reduce the risk of vertical transmission further. This study set out to assess OBGYN knowledge and clinical practice when treating pregnant women with chronic HBV. OBGYNs self report that they screen almost all pregnant patients for chronic HBV at the first prenatal visit. However, significant gaps exist in resident comfort and education in the management of pregnant patients with HBV, though improvement is seen through years of training.

Presenter:

**Steven K. Herrine, MD**

*Presentation topics:*

1. Niu B, Halegoua-DeMarzio D, Fenkel JM, Herrine SK. Obstetricians' knowledge and practices regarding chronic hepatitis B in pregnancy. Hepatology 2016;64:848A. Poster presentation to American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases Annual Meeting 2016, Boston, MA, November 13, 2016.
2. Reddy S, Reddy KG, Herrine SK, Koteish AA, Sterling RK, Russo MW, McDonald FS, Fix OK. A competency-based medical education pilot for training and certification in gastroenterology and transplant hepatology. Hepatology 2016;64:895A. Poster presentation to American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases Annual Meeting 2016, Boston, MA, November 13, 2016.

Training physicians has become more complex with increasing technology. There is a need to increase medical delivery systems and maintain patient-centered compassionate approaches to care. The American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases, the leading organization devoted to the care of patients with liver disease, teamed up with the American Board of Internal Medicine to institute a training paradigm using competence as the measure of success. This research outlines the training pilot program.

Presenter:

**Jesse Civan, MD**

*Presentation topic: Intrahepatic Cholangiocarcinoma*

1. Raja Koteswar Dhanekula, Donald G. Mitchell, John L. Farber, Ashwin Sama, Jesse Civan. Intrahepatic Cholangiocarcinoma Presenting as LI-RADS 5 "HCC."

Hepatocellular carcinoma is a particular form of liver cancer. This is an unusual cancer in the sense that a biopsy is usually unnecessary in making the diagnosis because the appearance of the cancer is so prevalent on an MRI. This research demonstrates that another form of cancer, cholangiocarcinoma, can mimic the appearance of hepatocellular carcinoma on an MRI, to an extent which may not previously have been appreciated, thus making diagnosis for cholangiocarcinoma easier for physicians.



# Jefferson Physician and Fellow ACG Presentations - 2016

## 1. David Kastenberg—*Patient Predictors For Inadequate Bowel Preparation In Colonoscopy: A Meta-Analysis*

Our goal is to minimize patients' risk for inadequate preparation. This will increase the effectiveness of colonoscopy by detecting more pre-cancerous polyps, substantially lowering the chance of getting colon cancer after colonoscopy "interval cancer," and reducing the chance they will have to repeat the colonoscopy before they would ordinarily have been due – saving days lost from work/avoiding co-pays for medications and the procedure/etc.

## 2. Andrew Kistler, Daniel M. Quirk—*Inpatient Management of Gastrointestinal Bleeding in Patient Receiving Target Specific Oral Anticoagulants*

There is limited data on patients taking oral anticoagulants that experience gastrointestinal bleeding. This study may help develop new protocols on how to manage these patients both medically and endoscopically.

## 3. David Kastenberg—*Multi-Center Prep Study*

CEE offers a non-invasive method to visualize the colon that doesn't require sedation and can potentially be done at home and on the patient's schedule. Research suggests it works as well as CT colonography. At Jefferson, we are participating in a national study comparing CTC and CEE for screening in subjects average risk for CRC. While the technology is very exciting, the area most challenging is the preparation regimen.

## 4. Christina Tofani/Anthony Infantalino—*Barrett's Esophagus Successfully Eradicated with Polypectomies and Radiofrequency Ablation*

Polypoid dysplasia in Barrett's is quite rare, with very few cases in literature. However, they appear to share similar clinicopathologic and molecular features as typical dysplasia seen in Barrett's. In the literature, all cases of polypoid were treated with esophagectomy when adenocarcinoma or high-grade dysplasia were identified. We presented two cases of polypoid Barrett's. In the first case, the patient had eradication of low-and high-grade dysplastic tissue after treatment with RFA. However, case two had progression of disease to invasive carcinoma in the setting of one RFA treatment and esophagectomy was recommended.

Polypoid Barrett's is uncommon and challenging to manage. Hopefully, our two cases will bring this rare entity to light to improve the care of patients presenting with Barrett's in this form.



Pictured below: Dr. Halegoua-DeMarzio and patient Bob Eddis.



# Faculty Highlight

## Dina Halegoua-DeMarzio, MD

Assistant Professor  
Director Fatty Liver Center  
Associate Transplant Hepatology Fellowship Program Director

After obtaining her medical degree at Temple University School of Medicine where she was inducted into the AOA, Dr. Dina Halegoua-De Marzio completed a residency in internal medicine, acting as Chief Resident in her final year at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. Succeeding her residency, Dr. Halegoua went on to complete fellowships in gastroenterology and transplant hepatology at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital.

In 2014, she joined the faculty at Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University as a full-time transplant hepatologist and Assistant Professor of Medicine. Dr. Halegoua-De Marzio developed the first adult Fatty Liver Center in the Delaware Valley and currently serves as its director. She has also taken a major role in medical education at Jefferson, serving as the Associate Transplant Hepatology Fellowship Program Director and has been recognized for her excellence in teaching by the medical housestaff.

Dr. Dina Halegoua-De Marzio's research has been presented at national meetings as well as published in numerous scientific and medical journals. She holds memberships in a number of professional organizations including the American Society of Transplantation.





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