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## Dean's Research Newsletter, January 2023

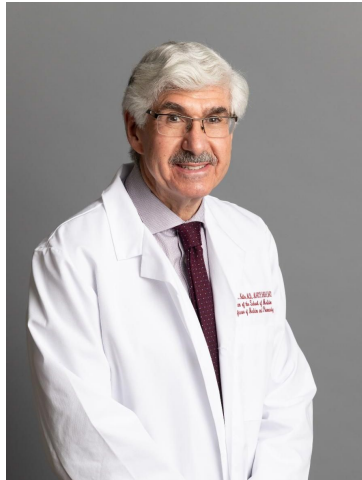
Jerry L. Nadler

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Dear New York Medical College (NYMC) Community,

I am pleased to share with you the latest issue of the research newsletter, which will be my final one as dean of the School of Medicine (SOM). During my past four years at NYMC, it has been extremely gratifying to witness firsthand the tremendous scientific advances made by SOM faculty, students, residents and fellows that have the power to impact so many lives. These accomplishments have been published in prestigious journals and supported with impressive grants.

In the SOM, we place a strong emphasis on medical student research and this has been showcased through the marked increase in participation in the Medical Student Research Forum (MSRF). Earlier this month, I was thrilled to be able to once again walk the halls of the

Medical Education Center and Basic Sciences Building during the MSRF and hear directly from our students on the exciting research they are doing.

I am very grateful to Mary Petzke, Ph.D., assistant dean of medical student research and associate professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology, and the medical student research leadership team for supporting our students in their research endeavors, as well as to the many faculty who mentored our students and volunteered their time as judges at the MSRF to evaluate these impressive projects. Thank you to Neil Schluger, M.D., the Barbara and William Rosenthal Chair of the Department of Medicine, in his role as associate dean for clinical and translational research, and Fawaz Al-Mufti, M.D., associate professor of neurology, neurosurgery and of radiology, in his role as assistant dean for graduate medical education research, for their support of research by our faculty, residents and fellows that will allow the SOM to continue to make important contributions.

I am confident that many more advances lie ahead for the NYMC research community. It has been a privilege to work with so many talented faculty, staff, residents and, of course, our students. I wish you all the best for the future. I have been very proud and honored to have served as your dean of the SOM.

Sincerely,

**Jerry L. Nadler, M.D., MACP, FAHA, FACE**  
Dean of the School of Medicine  
Professor of Medicine and of Pharmacology

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## Medical Students Showcase Research as Annual Research Forum Returns to In-Person Event

Nearly 100 SOM students filled the halls of the Medical Education Center and Basic Sciences Building to present their research on a wide range of basic and clinical science topics on January 5 for the 27th Annual Medical Student Research Forum (MSRF). Planned exclusively by SOM students, the forum, which was held in person for the first time since before the pandemic, included oral and poster presentations by medical students, as well as a keynote address by Joseph English, M.D., chair emeritus and professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences.



“MSRF provides students a unique opportunity to showcase their research accomplishments to both peers and faculty. It serves to highlight the relationship between research, medical education and clinical practice, encouraging the exploration of basic and clinical science that students can take with them into their future careers as physicians,” said Doria Weiss, SOM Class of 2025, and a member of the MSRF planning committee.

“We were so excited to be able to have the MSRF in-person for the first time since 2020. The forum gives students an opportunity to mingle with faculty and receive meaningful feedback on their presentations in a welcoming environment. We hope that the forum will only continue to grow as more students become actively involved in research,” said Kathleen Harwood, SOM Class of 2025 and a member of the MSRF planning committee. [Read the full story on the Medical Student Research Forum .](#)



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## Debra Bessen, Ph.D., Receives \$2.9 Million NIH Grant for Research on Preventing Strep A Infection



**Debra Bessen, Ph.D.**, professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology, has been awarded a five-year \$2,931,474 grant from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to support the discovery and design of a vaccine to prevent Group A streptococci (Strep A) infection, which annually causes more than 750 million infections and more than 500,000 deaths throughout the world.

“While Strep A bacterial infections are typically mild, such as strep throat, they can turn deadly,” said Dr. Bessen. “Most school-aged children get numerous Strep A infections, but immunity gradually builds so that by the time they reach adulthood, Strep A infections are rare. This grant will support research to identify signatures in the immune response in children both before and after Strep A infections that may help define human serum correlates of protection, a key measure for effectiveness in vaccine clinical trials. Those antibodies



that are predicted to protect against Strep A infection will then be experimentally validated using animal models for disease.”

This research builds on Dr. Bessen’s previous NIH-supported research into the molecular basis for Strep A skin and throat infections, antibiotic resistance in Strep A and the unique properties of strains that trigger rheumatic fever.

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## **Sachin Gupte, M.D., Ph.D., Awarded \$2.7 Million NIH Grant to Develop Treatments for Vascular Disease**

**Sachin Gupte, M.D., Ph.D.**, professor of pharmacology, has received a \$2,773,836, four-year grant from the National Institutes of Health to develop new personalized treatments to reduce vascular disease.

“Vascular diseases continue to be a major cause of death in the U.S. and worldwide,” said Dr. Gupte. “The goal of our research is to develop new therapies for three human diseases – pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH), PAH-induced heart failure and metabolic syndrome-associated coronary artery disease (MS-CAD). Our laboratory has recently discovered that two isoenzymes of glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD) are expressed in the vascular smooth muscle (VSM) and that G6PD-derived NADPH (pyridine nucleotide) signaling plays a role in mediating VSM contraction and switching VSM cell from contractile to synthetic phenotype.”



The grant proposes to determine potential mechanisms, driven by a newly discovered G6PD isoform in the nucleus of vascular smooth muscle cells (VSMCs), that contribute to pathogenic large artery stiffness and remodeling.

“We anticipate the results of this project will reveal the direct link between G6PD and gene expression that contribute to vascular pathology and expose mechanisms for disparate vascular disease outcomes observed in different ethnic groups around the world,” said Dr. Gupte.

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## **U.S. Food and Drug Administration Awards Supriya Jain, M.D., Broad Agency Agreement of \$1.9 million to Support Research on COVID-19 Vaccine-Associated Myocarditis**



**Supriya Jain, M.D.**, clinical associate professor of pediatrics and of radiology, and clinical education liaison, has been awarded a Broad Agency Agreement (BAA) of \$1,997,031 over five years by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to support groundbreaking research on COVID vaccine-associated myocarditis using advanced cardiovascular imaging, including cardiac MRI (CMR). Dr. Jain will lead a collaborative research network of clinical investigators spanning more than 30 U.S. medical institutions.

“Immunizations are the most important measure against COVID-19 and are highly effective in preventing serious clinical complications. A very rare but serious adverse effect—COVID vaccine-associated myocarditis—had been reported in some patients,” said Dr. Jain, a pediatric cardiologist and a cardiac imaging specialist, who serves as director of pediatric cardiac MRI/advanced cardiovascular imaging at Maria Fareri Children’s Hospital, a major clinical affiliate of NYMC. “In June 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) observed a rate

of post-vaccine myocarditis that was higher in adolescents and young adults than the expected baseline,” said Dr. Jain. This latest study builds on earlier studies initiated and led by Dr. Jain that began

with 63 patients from across 16 U.S. hospitals who were under 21 years old with a diagnosis of myocarditis following COVID-19 vaccination.

Since that time, Dr. Jain has built a large collaborative research network of clinical investigators with expertise in both cardiology and advanced cardiovascular imaging, including cardiac MRI (CMR), that spans more than 30 medical institutions across the U.S. and includes more than 300 patients. [Read the full story on Dr. Jain's research.](#)

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## Study Finds Children of Lower Socioeconomic Status Suffer Worse Outcomes After Traumatic Brain Injury

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) accounts for 50,000 pediatric hospitalizations annually in the United States and remains the most common cause of morbidity and mortality among pediatric and adolescent patients. A nationwide survey conducted by a group of NYMC students and faculty and physicians at Westchester Medical Center (WMC), a major NYMC clinical affiliate, demonstrated those with poor socioeconomic status suffered worse outcomes, including increased mortality, more complicated courses of treatment and longer hospital stays.

“This project recently published in [Clinical Neurology and Neurosurgery](#) adds to a growing body of literature showing that socioeconomic characteristics play a large role in the treatment course and outcomes of pediatric patients with traumatic brain injury,” said **Sima Vazquez**, SOM Class of 2024. Vazquez, pictured above right with **Rebecca Dann**, SOM Class of 2023, presented on the research at the Annual Meeting of the Section of Pediatric Neurological Surgery Conference in early December.

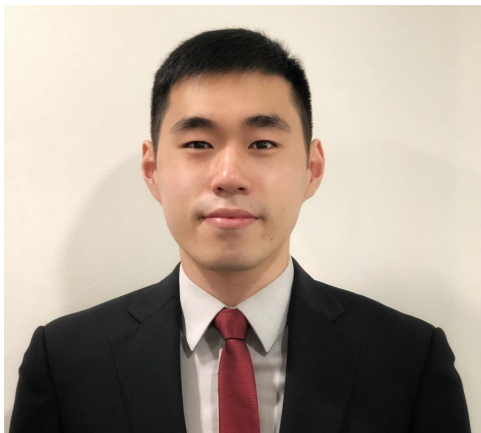


“Inadequate primary care, poor injury prevention strategies and deficient social support systems expose pediatric TBI patients of lower socioeconomic status to disparities that may have detrimental effects,” said Jose Dominguez, M.D., a senior neurosurgery resident at WMC who helped lead the study. “Families of lower socioeconomic status may also be disproportionately affected by the burden of care following a TBI, leading to delay in discharge as families may not be equipped to care for patients at home.”

As a continuation of this research, Irin Salik, M.D., an attending physician in anesthesiology at WMC and first author of the TBI study, is leading the creation of a Pediatric TBI Registry at WMC, so that pediatric TBI patients can be studied using precise granular data to better analyze the perioperative implications, intraoperative complications and postoperative sequelae. [Read the full story on the TBI study.](#)

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## New Study Identifies Pathway Used to Process Emotional Information in the Brain



Emotional facial expressions convey a wealth of non-verbal information, including an individual's mood, state of mind and intention, making them critically important for social communication. While viewing emotional expressions evokes an enhanced neural response in the amygdala and throughout the visual cortex, including the primary visual cortex (V1), the effect of facial valence (emotional content of the face) in V1 is surprising as the early visual cortex is not typically thought to process emotional aspects from stimuli. In a recent study published in [Nature Communications](#), **Jason Fu**, SOM Class of 2025, helped uncover the functional pathways by which emotional information is transmitted from the amygdala to V1.

“Researching these neural circuits involving emotional processing is important for understanding how

primate brains evolved to manage the complexities involved with large social groups,” said Fu, who conducted the research during a post-bachelor’s research fellowship at the National Institute of Mental Health of the NIH. “We know a lot about the feed forward processing pathway from V1 to other brain regions, but we know little about feedback pathways from those regions back to V1. Utilizing laminar-resolution functional MRI (7T fMRI), our experiment aimed to understand the feedback responses from the amygdala to V1, and its role in enhancing the processing of visual features associated with emotional stimuli.” [Read the full story on emotional processing in the brain.](#)

## Comorbidities and Hospital Length of Stay are Key Predictors of Mortality After Blunt Thoracic Trauma

Blunt thoracic trauma is responsible for 35 percent of trauma-related deaths in the United States and significantly contributes to morbidity and healthcare-related financial strain. A [newly published study](#) conducted by **Guy Elgar**, SOM Class of 2025, and Abbas Smiley, M.D., research assistant professor of surgery, found that comorbidities were a greater factor influencing mortality in emergently admitted patients with blunt chest wall trauma than advanced age, as had been reported in previous studies.

“Our findings indicate that the relationship between mortality, blunt chest wall trauma and advanced age may be more nuanced than previously suspected,” said Elgar, who recently presented his research at the Western Surgical Association Annual Meeting. “Without controlling for patient characteristics, age can serve as a surrogate factor that potentially contains the true mortality-associated variables, such as injury severity, the mechanism of blunt chest wall trauma and seriousness of the patient’s comorbidities.” [Read the full story on blunt thoracic trauma study.](#)



## Grants Corner

**Fawaz Al-Mufti, M.D.**, associate professor of neurology, neurosurgery and of radiology, received a \$172,517 grant from Cerus Endovascular, Inc. for "NECC: US IDE Study of the Contour NEurovasCular System™ for IntraCranial Aneurysm Repair."

**Mitchell Cairo, M.D.**, professor of pediatrics, medicine, cell biology and anatomy and of pathology, microbiology and immunology, received a \$1,004,658 grant from AbbVie Inc. for "A Single Arm, Open-Label, Phase 1b Trial of Epcoritamab in Pediatric Patients with Relapsed/ Refractory Aggressive Mature B-cell Neoplasms."

**HeePeel Chang, M.D.**, clinical assistant professor of surgery, received a \$5,000 grant from the Society for Vascular Surgery for "Efficacy and Safety of Intravascular Lithotripsy in Treatment of Chronic Limb-Threatening Ischemia."

**George Coritsidis, M.D.**, professor of medicine, received a \$7,000 grant from Natera, Inc., for "Renasight Testing in Underserved immigrant population with CKD of unknown etiology from Central and South America."

**Victor Garcia, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of pharmacology, received a \$56,000 grant for "Interdisciplinary Basic Medical School Sciences Program" and a \$16,000 grant for "MAP to Success: A Medical Application Preparation Program at New York Medical College (NYMC)" from the Association of Medical Schools.

**Jessica Hochberg, M.D.**, associate professor of pediatrics, received a \$9,500 grant from CHOP for "ADVL1711 A Phase 1/2 Study of Lenvatinib in Combination With Everolimus in Recurrent and Refractory Pediatric Solid Tumors, Including CNS Tumors."



**David Kronn, M.D.**, associate professor of pediatrics and of pathology, microbiology and immunology, received a \$845,000 grant from Sanofi, Inc., for "Baby-COMET: Clinical Study for Treatment-naïve IOPD Babies to Evaluate Efficacy and Safety of ERT With Avalglucosidase Alfa."

**Delong Liu, M.D., Ph.D.**, professor of medicine, received a \$41,516 grant from MorphoSys for "REAL-MIND: Prospective multicenter observational study of patients with relapsed or refractory diffuse large B-cell lymphoma starting second- or third-line therapy and not receiving autologous stem cell transplant."

**Srihari Naidu, M.D.**, professor of medicine, received a \$92,211 grant from Cytokinetics, Inc. for "Protocol CY 6031 A Phase 3, Multi-Center, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Trial to Evaluate The Efficacy And Safety Of CK3773274 in Adults With Symptomatic Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy and Left Ventricular Outflow Tract Obstruction."

**Sheila Nolan, M.D.**, assistant professor of pediatrics, received a \$22,096 grant from the NIH for "Comparative Effectiveness and Complications of Intravenous Ceftriaxone Compared with Oral Doxycycline in Lyme Meningitis in Children."

**Lance Parton, M.D.**, professor of pediatrics and associate professor of anesthesiology and of obstetrics and gynecology, received a \$50,000 grant from the NIH for "Safety of Sildenafil in Premature Infants with Severe Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia (SILDI-SAFE)."

**Tana Pradhan, D.O.**, clinical associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology, received a \$103,545 grant from K-Beta Group, Inc/GOG Foundation for "A Phase 2 Open-Label, Multicenter Study to Evaluate Efficacy and Safety of ZN-c3 in Subjects with Malignant Tumors Harboring DNA Repair and Cell Cycle Gene Alterations (Protocol ZN-c3-005)."

**Karen Seiter, M.D.**, professor of medicine, received a \$85,935 grant for "Tamibarotene in Combination with Venetoclax and Azacitidine in Previously Untreated Adult Patients Selected for RARA-positive AML Who Are Ineligible for Standard Induction Therapy" and a \$65,620 grant for "A Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled Phase 3 Study of Tamibarotene Plus Azacitidine Versus Placebo Plus Azacitidine in Newly Diagnosed, Adult Patients Selected for RARA-positive Higher-risk Myelodysplastic Syndrome" (SELECT MDS-) from Syros Pharma/CRO Precision for Medicine.

**Gregory Veillette, M.D.**, assistant professor of surgery, received a \$117,449 grant from Imvax, Inc. for "Evaluation of Immunological Responses Against Hepatocellular Carcinoma (Hcc) Tumors."

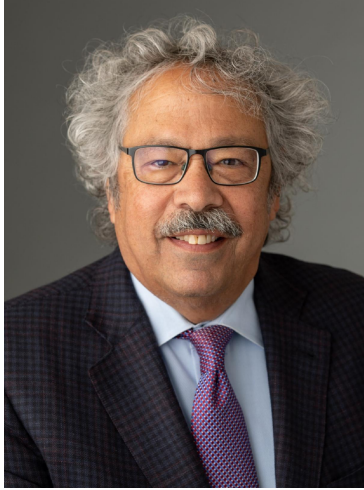
**John Welter, M.D.**, assistant professor of pediatrics, received a \$288,790 grant from AbbVie for "A Phase 2 Study of Galicaftr/Navocaftr/ABBV-119 or Galicaftr/Navocaftr/ABBV-576 in Subjects With Cystic Fibrosis Who Are Homozygous or Heterozygous for the F508del Mutation" and a \$195,118 grant from Vertex Pharmaceuticals for "A Phase 3, Open-label Study Evaluating the Long-term Safety and Efficacy of Vx-121 Combination Therapy in Subjects with Cystic Fibrosis."

**Steven Wolf, M.D.**, clinical professor of pediatrics, received a \$15,040 grant from Eisai for "Extended Access Program and Retrospective Chart Review For Locaserin in Dravet Syndrome and Other Refractory Epilepsies."

## **Mitchell S. Cairo, M.D., Awarded Research Grant by St. Baldrick's Foundation**

**Mitchell S. Cairo, M.D.**, professor of pediatrics, medicine, cell biology and anatomy and of pathology, microbiology and immunology, and vice chair of research in the Department of Pediatrics, was awarded a \$100,000 research grant by the [St. Baldrick's Foundation's Jack's Pack - We Still Have His Back Hero Fund](#) to develop immunotherapeutic agents to enhance the function of natural killer (NK) cells to destroy Burkitt lymphoma (BL).

Dr. Cairo, who is chief of pediatric hematology, oncology and stem cell transplantation, and director of the Children and Adolescent Cancer and Blood Diseases Center at Maria Fareri Children's Hospital (MFCH)



at Westchester Medical Center, and his team are working on a study that could be instrumental for patients with BL who face a relapse in their diagnosis. Most children diagnosed with the disease are cured, however, drug resistance and suppression by the tumor surroundings can cause the cancer to return. In the study, genetic techniques will be used to change expanded NK cells to target CD20 and a special protein will be created to attach to CD19 on BL. A virus will be developed to produce IL21 to strengthen NK persistence and function. Once deemed successful, the procedure will be available to pediatric BL patients in a clinical setting and would offer a potentially more effective and less toxic therapeutic approach, ultimately leading to improved survival.

“This revolutionary combinatorial approach has the potential of saving patients like Jack in the future, who relapse with chemoradiotherapy-resistant disease and who currently have a dismal prognosis with more conventional therapy,” said Dr. Cairo. [Read the full article on the new research grant.](#)

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## Children’s Dream Foundation Grant Supports Purchase of SimJunior Manikin

The Clinical Skills and Simulation Center (CSSC) has been awarded a grant from the Children’s Dream Foundation for the purchase of a new SimJunior manikin, which will be used to provide high-fidelity simulation in pediatric emergency care for medical learners and first responders. SimJunior, an interactive pediatric simulator of a six- to eight-year-old child, is capable of simulating a wide range of conditions from a healthy, talking child to an unresponsive, critical patient with no vital signs. This is the sixth consecutive year that the CSSC has been awarded simulation grants from the Children’s Dream Foundation.

In addition to training medical students, SimJunior will benefit other healthcare providers in Westchester County, including residents, nurses, physician assistants, educators and EMTs, because it will provide additional instruction for providers on the front line that provide emergency care for critically ill pediatric patients.



“Simulation training has long been viewed as the preferred way to safely train learners on the nuances of pediatric emergency care. I am incredibly grateful to the Children’s Dream Foundation for their continued support that has made a dramatic impact on our ability to facilitate virtual and in-person training when learners needed it the most,” said **Katharine Yamulla, M.A., CHSE**, second from left, senior director of competency-based assessment and clinical skills education and director of the CSSC. “As the long-term effects of COVID-19 continue to unfold, it is vital that we create simulation sessions that not only address related physical complications, such as multisystem inflammatory syndrome, but that we also prepare health care providers to recognize the warning signs of mental illness and effectively manage opioid and/or other drug overdoses.” [Read the full story on new grant.](#)

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## Department of Pediatrics Hosts Inaugural Leonard J. Newman, M.D. '70, Assistant Professor Pediatric Research Symposium





The inaugural Leonard J. Newman, M.D. '70, Assistant Professor Pediatric Research Symposium, held on November 16, was an opportunity for instructors and assistant professors in the Department of Pediatrics and pediatric subspecialties to present new and innovative biomedical research and engage in academic discussions.

The event was hosted by the Department of Pediatrics and Boston Children's Health Physicians (BCHP), and chaired by and **Mitchell S. Cairo, M.D.**, third from left, professor of pediatrics, medicine, cell biology and anatomy and of pathology, microbiology and immunology, and vice chair of research in the Department of Pediatrics, and featured morning presentations of the four best basic, clinical, quality and translational research abstracts and an evening poster session.

The event honors Dr. Newman, a pediatric gastroenterologist, who has served as professor and chair of the Department of Pediatrics since 1992. He is responsible for the highly successful development and enrichment of both the academic and scholarship components of the Department as well as supporting junior faculty in research and education.

Photo from left: **Yaya Chu, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of pediatrics, Division of Pediatric Hematology, Oncology, and Stem Cell Transplantation (best translational research); **Yanling Liao, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of pediatrics, Division of Pediatric Hematology, Oncology, and Stem Cell Transplantation (best basic research); **Dr. Cairo**; **Michael H. Gewitz, M.D.**, professor of pediatrics, and vice chair of the Department of Pediatrics; **Sankaran Krishnan, M.D., M.P.H.**, associate professor of pediatrics; **Shyall Bhela, M.D.**, assistant professor of pediatrics, Division of Pediatric Pulmonology (best clinical research); and **Edo Schaefer, M.D.**, assistant professor of pediatrics, Division of Pediatric Hematology, Oncology, and Stem Cell Transplantation (best clinical research).

## Department of Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology Hosts Inaugural Research Symposium



The Department of Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology hosted its first Research Symposium on December 8. The day-long symposium featured oral presentations and poster presentations by

students, residents and trainees on a range of topics, including peanut allergies, traumatic stress, thyroid cancer and the presence of Sars-Co-V-2 in ticks. Chandra Shekhar Bakshi, D.V.M., Ph.D., professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology, delivered the keynote address.

Humayun Islam, M.D., Ph.D., clinical professor and chair of the Department of Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology, opened the program by welcoming attendees. "We are thrilled to host this first departmental research symposium featuring these outstanding research projects underway by our faculty, students, residents and trainees," said Dr. Islam. "When I was a young researcher, I had the privilege of presenting at a research day such as this, and I had long hoped to create a similar platform for new young investigators. Today's event is that platform and I look forward to hosting this symposium yearly to showcase the important research advances taking place in the Department of Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology."

"The first PMI research symposium was an exhibition of talent, brilliance, creativity and energy. The strength we can bring to bear is immeasurable," said Chioma Okeoma, Ph.D., professor and vice chair of research, Department of Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology. [Read the full story on the PMI Research Symposium.](#)

## Faculty and Student Publications and Accolades

**Wilbert Aronow, M.D.**, professor of medicine, published "[Previously undiagnosed angina pectoris in individuals without established cardiovascular disease: Prevalence and prognosis in the United States](#)" in the *American Journal of the Medical Sciences* .

**Muhammad Choudhury, M.D.**, professor and chair of the Department of Urology, published "[Case series - Prioritizing bladder-sparing treatments in patients with urinary tract leiomyoma: A report of three cases and updated literature review](#)" in the *Canadian Urological Association Journal* .

**Cara Grimes, M.D., M.A.S.**, associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology and of urology, published "[Gender Affirmation](#)" in *Urogynecology* .

**Austin Guo, Ph.D.**, assistant professor of pharmacology, published "[CYP4F2-Catalyzed Metabolism of Arachidonic Acid Promotes Stromal Cell Mediated Immunosuppression in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer](#)" in *Cancer Research* .

**Leslie Halpern, D.D.S., M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H.**, professor of dental medicine, published "[Education in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery: An Evolving Paradigm Preface](#)" in *Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Clinics of North America* .

**Rahim Hirani**, SOM Class of 2025; **Suguru Ohira, M.D., Ph.D.**, clinical associate professor of surgery; **David Spielvogel, M.D.**, professor of surgery; and **Masashi Kai, M.D.**, clinical associate professor of surgery, published "[Insertion of durable left ventricular assist device with repair of ischemic ventricular septal rupture](#)" in the *Journal of Cardiac Surgery* .

**Maryia Kazlouskaya**, SOM Class of 2025, published "[Deep penetrating nevus with clear cell changes](#)" in the *Journal of Cutaneous Pathology* .

**Marietta Lee, Ph.D.**, professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, published "[Variation in G-quadruplex sequence and topology differentially impacts human DNA polymerase fidelity](#)" in *DNA Repair* .

**Lior Levy**, SOM Class of 2023, published "[A Retrospective Analysis of Outcomes of Patients with Sternal Wound Dehiscence after Cardiothoracic Surgery at Westchester Medical Center 2015-2020](#)" in the *Journal of the American College of Surgeons* . In addition, Levy and **Abbas Smiley, M.D., Ph.D.**, research assistant professor of surgery, published "[Postoperative Complications in Patients Undergoing Nonabdominal Wall Flap Reconstruction after Laparoscopic or Robotic Abdominoperineal Resection](#)" and "[Risk Factors and Complications of Abdominally Based Breast Reconstruction: A Comparative Analysis of 13,587 Patients](#)" in the *Journal of the American College of Surgeons* .

**XiuMin Li, M.D., M.S.**, professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology, published "[SnO<sub>2</sub> quantum dots-functionalized Ti<sub>3</sub>C<sub>2</sub> MXene nanosheets for electrochemical determination of dopamine in body](#)

fluids” in *Microchimica Acta*.

**Jamie Mullally, M.D.**, clinical assistant professor of medicine; and **William Frishman, M.D.**, professor of medicine and of pharmacology, published “[Semaglutide for Weight Loss: Was It Worth the Weight?](#)” in *Cardiology in Review*.

**Sonali Shah**, SOM Class of 2024; **Sophia Arbuiso**, SOM Class of 2024; **Merit Gorgy**, SOM Class of 2024; and **Janet Moy, M.D.**, clinical associate professor of dermatology, published “[Assessment of diversity in skin colour in dermatology medical education resources](#)” in *Clinical and Experimental Dermatology*.

**Kristy Tefft**, SOM Class of 2024; **Sarah Balboul**, SOM Class of 2024; **Bijan Safai, M.D., D.S.C.**, professor and chair, Department of Dermatology and professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology; and **Shoshana Marmon, M.D., Ph.D.**, clinical assistant professor of dermatology, published “[Diagnosis of stress-associated dermatologic conditions in New York City safety-net hospitals during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)” in the *Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology*.

**Rachel Thommen**, SOM Class of 2024, published “[Preoperative frailty measured by risk analysis index predicts complications and poor discharge outcomes after Brain Tumor Resection in a large multi-center analysis](#)” in the *Journal of Neuro-Oncology*.

**Daniel Zhao**, SOM Class of 2023, published “[An unsupervised machine learning approach using passive movement data to understand depression and schizophrenia](#)” in the *Journal of Affective Disorders*.



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