Division of
*Hospital Medicine*

**Rounds and Reflections**
***Issue #2***

EMORY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Department of Medicine

**October 1, 2025**

## Emory Division of Hospital Medicine Newsletter

*#WeAreEDHM*

**Director's Take:** Focusing on the Wins; Let's Celebrate our Achievements!

**Updates and Upcoming Events:** Faculty Development Awards, Conference Abstract Deadlines, and the November POCUS Conference

**Celebrations:** Congrats to our amazing Hospitalists for all the awards, talks, and achievements!

**Evidence-Based Medicine Corner:** Why Do Our Iron Deficiency Cutoffs Miss the Mark?

**EDHM Spotlight:** Meet Dr. Shen Chen, Site Associate Director of Education at EJCH

**The Extra "Shift"** Our Hospitalists' Work Beyond Patient Care

# Director's Take

**Dan Hunt, MD**

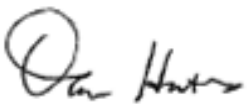
I'm excited about the second issue of our newsletter and delighted to contribute a few words. There are so many challenging, difficult things going on in our world right now; it is important that we remind ourselves that there are many positives as well. So, let's focus on celebrations!

Our Division was very well represented at the Department of Medicine Awards Celebration earlier this month. We had an incredible 6th Annual EDHM Research Day in August with more than 20 posters. Exceptional work! And we had an amazing and invigorating 10th Annual EDHM Clinical Vignettes Poster Competition a couple of weeks ago with 57 (!!!) vignettes submitted—that's 57 reminders of how interesting medicine is and how much we can learn from each other.

The 25th Southern Hospital Medicine Conference was an incredible opportunity for us to shine and share our knowledge and enthusiasm for great medicine, including three of our faculty (Drs. Dan Dressler, Annie Massart, and Dustin Smith) giving Updates in Hospital Medicine and many more EDHM faculty serving as session speakers and poster competition winners. We've recently learned that many members of our group will be presenting at 2026 SHM Converge in Nashville in the spring.

We should also celebrate new leadership opportunities and clinical distinctions within our division that we feature throughout the rest of this newsletter!

I hope each of us will share celebrations and victories both small and large. It is those positives that will sustain us.



# Faculty Development Updates

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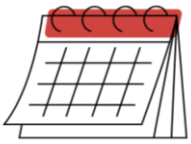


## Upcoming Events: Save the Date!

- Southern SGIM, Feb 26-28 (**Abstract deadline: Nov 12**)
- ACP, April 16-18 (**Abstract deadline Nov 17**)
- SHM Converge, March 29-April 1 (**Abstract deadline: Nov 24**)
- National SGIM, May 6-9 (**Abstract deadline: Dec 12**)
- Faculty Development Awards (**Applications open Feb 2026**)
- POCUS Conference **November 6 and 7, 2025**

# Ongoing Events

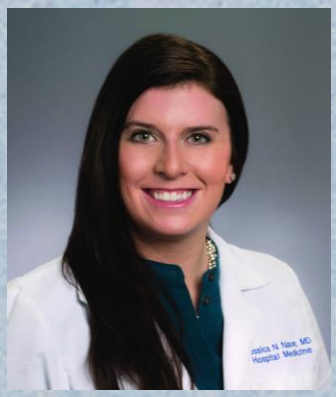
- Write Here, Write Now (WHRN): Our Division's hub for hospitalist scholarship, collaboration, and writing accountability is shifting meeting times to make them more convenient—watch your inbox for updates!

- EDHM Grand Rounds: Every other Friday at 1 PM
  - Next EDHM Grand Rounds: October 10 | 1–2 p.m.

***New!***

- Faculty Development Office Hours is a bimonthly, open-agenda virtual forum with the FD leaders. Come with questions, reflections, and ideas.
- Promotion Workshop: Stay tuned for more details on the first ever Promotion Workshop on November 18, 2025.

# Celebrations: Awards



**Dr. Jessica Nave:**
Nanette K. Wenger
Distinguished Service Award
Emory DOM 2025

**Dr. Reena Hemrajani:**
Educator Impact Award
Emory DOM 2025

**Shelia Harris**
Outstanding EHC Staff
Support Award

**Dr. Sneha Neurgaonkar**
Hidden Gem Award

**Congrats** to EDHM colleagues recognized by the Department of Medicine as incredible researchers on Researcher Appreciation Day!

*Top row (L-R): TaRessa Wills, Haritha Katakam, Abhi Kole, Pradeep Bathina, Matthew Dudgeon*
*Second row (L-R): Alex Arges, Shaheen Fatima, Patricia Hwang, Prabhava Bagla*

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# Celebrations!

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## Clinical Vignette Competition Winners:

🏆 1st Place: **Prathima Pangulur**, MD; Bashir Geer, MD

🥈 2nd Place: **Teresa Durham, BS**; Maria Chacon, MD, Panagiotis Sarris-Michopoulos, MD, Toby Terwilliger, MD.

🥉 3rd Place: **Sarah Yi, MD;** Shrutikona Das, BA, Yoo Mee Shin, MD

🏅 People's Choice & Most Visually Appealing: **Natalie Skopicki, BA**; Hallie Stevens, BS, Naganavya Ravoori, MD, Elbert Chun, MD.

## Research Day Winners:

🏆 1st Place: **Maha Sulieman, MD**; Sathya Naidu, MD; Viniya Patidar, MD; Babar Junaidi, MD; Rashida La Barrie, MD; Sarah Decaro, MD

🥈 2nd Place: **Kate Eisenbraun**; Dylan Perito, BA; Toby Terwilliger, MD

🥉 3rd Place: **Iheoma Alinnor**, MD; Debbie Vigliotti, PharmD; Marjorie Curry, PharmD; Palak Patel, MS, PhD; Bhavin Adhyaru, MD; Shaheen Fatima, MD

🏅 Honorable Mention Award: **Angelita Incer**, PharmD, BCPS; Patricia Hwang, MD.

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# Highlights from the Southern Hospital Medicine Conference

The 25th annual Southern Hospital Medicine Conference took place September 25-27. EDHM faculty and staff from every site got a chance to meet and learn and made a fantastic showing in the poster competitions!

EDHM Course Directors: Dan Dressler, Annie Massart, and Dustin Smith

**EDHM Session Speakers:**

- Monee Amin
- Caroline Coleman
- Sarah DeCaro
- Bashir Geer
- Harika Gorti
- Mary Ann Hall
- Dan Hunt
- Patricia Hwang
- Mike Jones
- Babar Junaidi
- Malavika Kapuria
- Noble Maleque
- Sara Millwee
- Jessica Nave
- Yoo Mee Shin
- Meredith Trubitt

Research Poster Award Winners:

- 1st Place, Presenter Annika Doddapaneni and EDHM co-authors **Pradeep Bathina** and **Mary Ann Hall**
- Honorable Mention, Presenter **Patricia Hwang**

Clinical Vignette Poster Award Winners:

- 3rd Place, Presenter Ariella Tsfoni and EDHM co-authors **Adetoun Adeyemi**, **Bonnie Cruser**, and **Ketino Kobaidze**
- Honorable Mention, Presenter Madison de los Reyes and EDHM co-authors **Yoo Mee Shin** and **Stephen Kimura**
- Honorable Mention, **Richard White**

## From the Chairs of EDHM Research Day!

Co-chairing this year's EDHM Research Day was such a rewarding experience. We were inspired by the creativity and dedication our presenters brought to their work.

We received a record number of posters with exciting research from across the division

A big thank you to the judges, committee members, and our Hospital Medicine Division for their incredible support in making the evening flow so smoothly. Most of all, we are grateful for the sense of community and collaboration that made the event so special!

*Shaheen, Prabhava, and Jasmah*
*(EDHM Research Day Co-chairs)*

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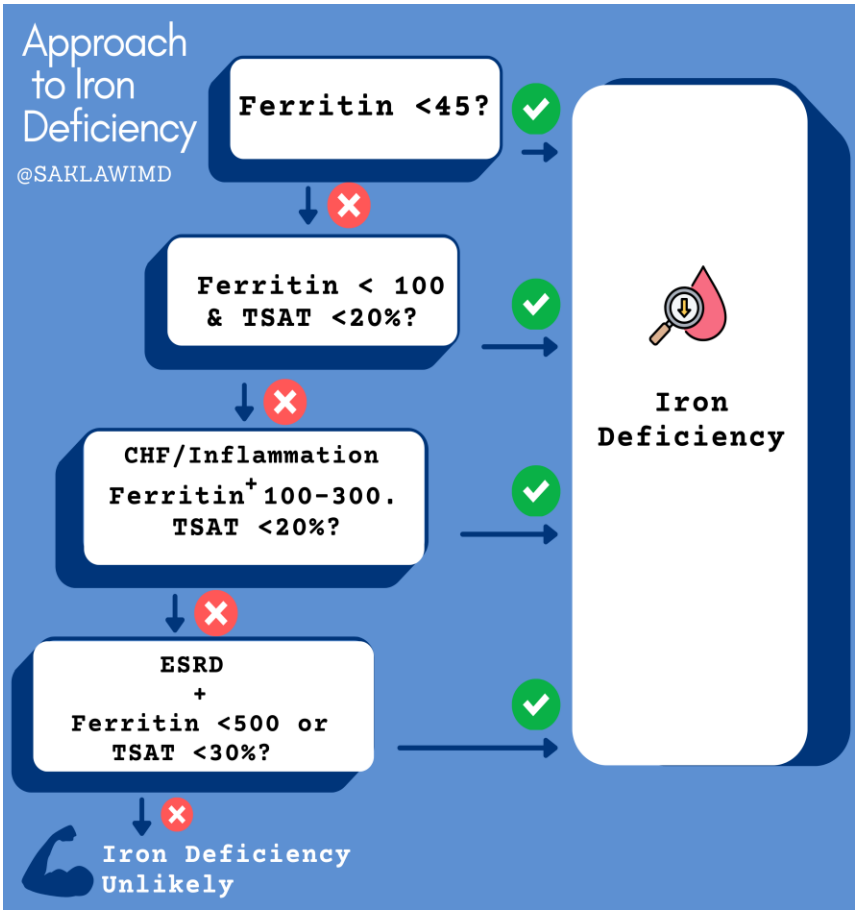
# EBM Corner: *by Youssef Saklawi, MD*

In my short career as a hospitalist, I have yet to meet 2 clinicians who diagnose iron deficiency the same way.

Current anemia thresholds do not always reflect true pathology: "normal" for women and "low" for men are based on population averages, not on iron status [1]. As a result, nearly 40% of menstruating women with hemoglobin in the "normal" range may still be iron deficient and symptomatic [2]. Supplementing women in this range with oral iron has been shown to increase hemoglobin [3].




Diagnosing iron deficiency remains challenging, especially in hospitalized patients.

Ferritin <45 ng/mL is specific for iron deficiency, but as an acute-phase reactant that rises with inflammation & age, it is not sensitive. Patients may have elevated ferritin levels & still be iron deficient. Transferrin saturation (TSAT) can be used as an adjunct in those scenarios.

TSAT <16% or <20% with inflammation suggests functional iron deficiency [4]. Unfortunately, TSAT has not consistently outperformed ferritin as a biomarker for iron deficiency [5].

**Practice Pattern:** In suspected iron deficiency, I use ferritin and TSAT, recognizing current tests are imperfect and that high ferritin does not reliably rule out iron deficiency.

**Application:** Hospitalists routinely use ferritin and TSAT in patients with heart failure. In this group, IV iron for ferritin <100 or <300 ng/mL with TSAT <20% improved quality of life [6], though newer data show no effect on hospitalizations or mortality [7].

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Infographic & References

# Promotion & Mentorship

Save the Date! Join us for an Academic promotion workshop on November 18, 2025

**CV Fillable Template**

**What to expect:**

- A panel of successfully promoted physicians
- A high-yield guide to promotion High-yield guide
- CV review

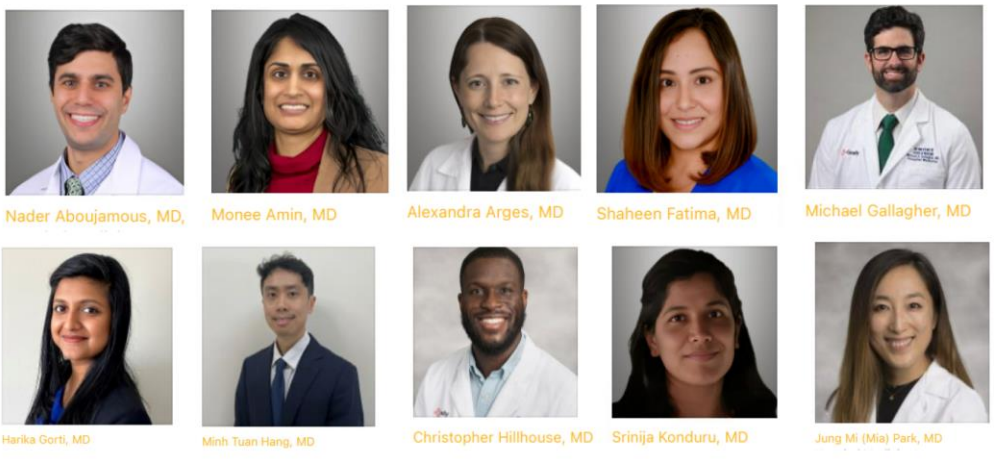
Mentorship training is planned for fall 2025: Date TBD

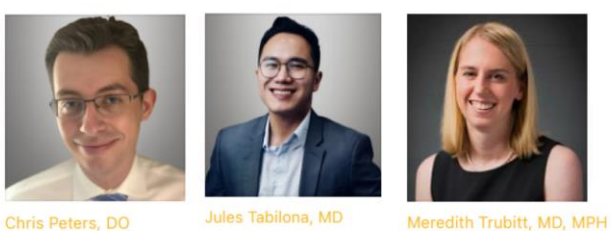
Our Faculty Development Department Mentorship Program had ***21 new pairs*** in 2025!!

Need a mentor? Email: **Monica.Perkins@emory.edu**

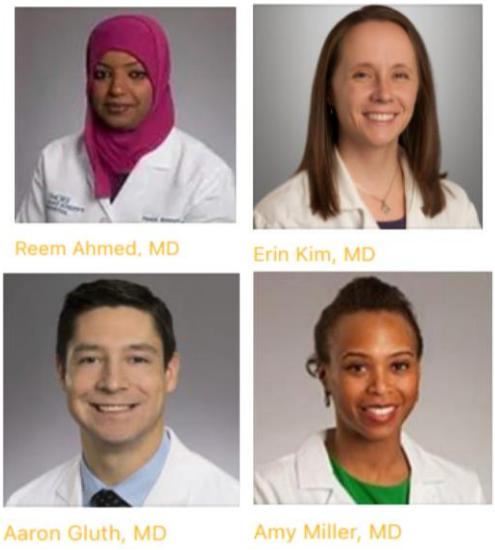
# Clinical Distinctions Promotions - 2025

## Senior Physicians



## Distinguished Physicians

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# The Extra "Shift"

*By TaRessa Wills, MD*

As we stood in the airport, preparing to return to the US, we were overwhelmed with gratitude—for the hearts we had helped to heal, the patients and families whose lives intersected with ours, and the privilege of serving on such a life-saving journey. As Vice President of Heart Attack Ethiopia, Inc., I was humbled to move from solely planning prior missions to actively serving on our 4th and largest to date.

*Post cardiac procedure patient presenting for follow up (healing well)*

2 weeks + 33 volunteers + 12–14 hours per day + >$2 million in donated medical supplies + Collaboration of brilliant local clinicians

=

**165 life-saving procedures**

including pediatric and adult surgeries, TAVRs, left-heart catheterizations with percutaneous interventions, ablations, pacemaker placements, and critical medication optimization

*The team in the Addis Ababa, Ethiopia airport.*

Our commitment does not end when the mission flight departs. Heart Attack Ethiopia continues to invest in sustainable partnerships—supporting infrastructure development, training programs, and patient education—while also engaging in community-based efforts here at home. Global health is not abstract—it is deeply personal, interwoven with the stories of every patient, despite their personal environment, and every team member who contributes. My hope in sharing this humanitarian work is that you feel a sense of connection to this movement, and that it inspires reflection on your own role in advancing health for all. Together, through collaboration, compassion, and a shared commitment, we can save lives—one heart at a time.

*Heart Attack Ethiopia, Inc. is a nonprofit founded by Ethiopian-American physicians Drs. Obsinet Merid and Tesfaye Telila to address the world's leading cause of death, cardiovascular disease:* [https://heartattackethiopia.org/](https://heartattackethiopia.org/)

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# EDHM Spotlight

**Dr. Shen Chen**

Q: What is your favorite part of being a hospitalist?

A: As a hospitalist, I take care of a patient along their whole journey: we can figure out what is wrong with them, stabilize them, and give them a discharge plan, and then they get to go home to their families. We can really change people's lives! Also, at Johns Creek, we have a really good group of people supporting each other.

Q: What do you like best about your Site Associate Director of Education (SADE) role at Johns Creek?

A: Johns Creek is a community-based hospital focused on patient care and QI. As a new grad, I had much to learn, but joining the Education Council connected me with ongoing opportunities. I enjoy both learning and teaching, and the SADE role supports that growth. After graduation, learning opportunities can feel limited, but at Emory we still have many. As a SADE, I get to hear about and share projects, lectures, and resources.

Q: What advice would you give to yourself when you were just starting out at Emory?

A: I would tell myself that everything would turn out fine. When you start out, you have so much doubt, "Can I really be a full-fledged attending?!" But it all worked out. Also, that it's OK to ask for help. Even now, I still ask others for help. Don't be afraid to ask for help—all of us need help! There's always a learning process; sometimes if I ask someone for help, there's a learning opportunity for them as well.

Fun fact: Shen has a pet turtle named Turtle. She found him wandering in her backyard one day and has been his devoted caretaker for 25 years.

# EDHM Kudos!

Congrats to **Dr. Nader Aboujamous** for his new role as Emory Saint Joseph's Hospital Site Director!

Congrats to **Dr. Malavika Kapuria** and **Dr. Adrian Umpierrez** for being appointed as the Interim Directors at Grady.

Congrats to **Dr. Fofie Akoto** for her appointment as system Medical Director for Care Management!

Kudos to **Dr. Joanna Bonsall** for leading an incredible round of Academic Hospitalist Academy in September!

## Welcome to our New EDHM Hospitalists!!

Alyssa Greenhouse, MD
Bryce Rushing, MD
Daniel Barboto, MD
Ebudechukwu Njemanze, MD
Enoch Johnmarie, MD
Evan Heiderscheit, MD
Jessica Oh, MD
Lana Aleuy, DO
Marie McKinnon, MD
Mariam Japaridze, MD
Michael Rayalu, MD
Patrick Rizk, MD
Said Sadat, MD
Sina Hedayatpour, DO
Stephen Gurley, MD
Suprada Vinyak, MD
Thejaswi Poonacha, MD
Vini Patel, DO
Zachary Philippi, MD

# Stay Connected!

**Faculty Development Team**

- Annie Massart
- Manpreet Malik
- Monica Perkins

**Newsletter Team:**

- Mary Ann Hall
- Maha Sulieman
- Manpreet Malik
- Faiqa Malik
- Rashida La Barrie
- Babar Junaidi
- Youssef Saklawi

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**For questions contact:**

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