



**CONFERENCES & MEETINGS**

**Grand Rounds**  
**Thursday, Apr. 29, 2004, 7:30 AM**  
**Clinic Auditorium**

**David Baker, M.D.**

Division Chief of General Internal Medicine  
Northwestern University

**Health Care Report Cards: Do They Make the Grade?**

**FROM DIVISIONS**

- **Infectious Diseases has received much press this month:**
  - The *Journal of Clinical Investigation* review series includes an article (and the cover), entitled, "Acute HIV revisited: new opportunities for treatment and prevention"; 2004; 113 937-945. Drs. **Christopher D. Pilcher, Joseph J. Eron, Jr., Shannon Galvin, Cynthia Gay, and Myron S. Cohen**, [Online access here](#).
  - Two articles in the *Winter 2004 UNC Endeavor*: Two, When is this a big number? 1. When you're talking about HIV" on the work of the above group, and 2. "Battling AIDS in Africa," Dr. **Charles van der Horst** and others. To view, go to [this link](#).
  - The *New York Times*, April 5, Health Section article, "AIDS Fears Grow for Black Women," includes the work and quotes of Dr. **Peter Leone**.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **Antiretroviral Therapy, Hepatitis B/C, Hyperlipidemia, and Changing Behavior:HIV Care 2004 Conference.** Organizer: *Charles van der Horst*, MD, Infectious Disease. Monday May 3, 2004, Friday Center. See Program and registration information [at this link](#) Registration fee \$30 includes one day program and breakfast, lunch and snack. Please contact Kris Medinger, CME Office at 919-962-2118 if you have questions.
- Seminar sponsored by Sheps Center and others, "**Diversity in US Medical Schools: What Does History Tell Us About the Future?**" Philip R. Lee, MD, Inst. Hlth Policy Studies, Univ. California, San Francisco, Wed., April 28, 1301 McGavran Greenberg, 4:00-5:00pm.
- May issue of *Academic Medicine* **tackles the topic of resident physicians** from a variety of perspectives, including arguments and counter-arguments on **resident duty hours. This issue also examines resident sleep deprivation**, as well as several innovative evaluation tools used in residency education. Available on-line [here](#).

## FROM THE CHAIR'S OFFICE

This week's column is about conflict of interest - both in general and in regard to my dual roles. In all of our lives, we have potential or real professional conflicts. Oftentimes we must rearrange our priorities or make difficult decisions in order to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest, even though we might not feel such a conflict exists. This, of course, is paramount in dual relationships between UNC and outside activities such as consulting for other institutions or companies. Each year, faculty is required to complete forms on potential conflicts, so that they are disclosed and can be reviewed in the General Counsel's office. Recently, I have found myself in the position where some may feel that it is a conflict of interest for me to make decisions at P&A, or for the clinical enterprise, because of my role as department chair.

Fortunately, for me this has turned out to be less difficult than might have been anticipated. As you know, the Department is extremely fortunate to have excellent leadership and I can often ask **Andrew Greganti** to represent the department in his role as Vice Chairman. Likewise, **Lee Berkowitz** (for education) and **David Clemmons** (for research) represent our department with distinction.

In issues outside the department, Bob Golden has been more than helpful in taking on any for which I might have a conflict. Since Bob, like me, has both responsibilities for the institution and his department, we are able to adjudicate difficult issues. For instance, if an important issue arises regarding a clinical issue - but for which a decision that favors the Department of Medicine could be perceived as a conflict of interest for me - Bob (rather than me) will take the lead in the decision-making process for the institution. Conversely, if an important academic issue arises that could impact the Department of Psychiatry, Bob will likely ask me to be the "institutional" person to lead the decision-making process.

One note, before I sign off, about an important upcoming deadline. May 1 is the deadline for the **DOM Junior Faculty Multidisciplinary Research Grants Program**. This Program will provide awards to develop new and exciting research projects. Junior faculty is defined as instructors and assistant professors within 5 years of appointment. The purpose of this Program is to provide support for pilot projects that have a high likelihood of receiving extramural support from Federal sources and of providing new insights into research specific areas that are of interest to the Department. This Program is in its second year and the awards provided, thus far, have been felt to be most helpful for successful applicants. Details can be found at [medicine.med.unc.edu/res/activities.htm](http://medicine.med.unc.edu/res/activities.htm).

Questions or submissions, contact [Rosemary Simpson@med.unc.edu](mailto:Rosemary_Simpson@med.unc.edu)