



**CONFERENCES & MEETINGS**

**Grand Rounds**  
**Thursday, May 13, 2004, 7:30 AM**  
**Clinic Auditorium**

**Randal Detwiler, M.D.**  
Professor, Medicine  
Division of Nephrology

**Lessons Learned from HIV Associated Nephropathy**

**FROM DIVISIONS**

- **Venugopal Menon, M.D.**, Assistant Professor of Medicine and Emergency Medicine, was nominated and elected to AOA by the student body of the medical school.
- **Rosemary Simpson**, Director of Research, is one of 35 UNC Faculty chosen to tour North Carolina on the UNC Tar Heel Bus, May10-14.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- DOM sponsored Symposium, **Frontiers in Medicine - Population Studies**, Wednesday, May 19, 6am-6pm - Biomolecular Auditorium, G202 - for details go to: [medicine.med.unc.edu/res/frontier.doc](http://medicine.med.unc.edu/res/frontier.doc).
- Newly renovated **Geriatric Unit** will have an **open house** on Wednesday, May 19, 2-4 p.m., 8th Floor, NC Memorial Hospital. Refreshments served. Everyone welcome!
- The **Division of General Medicine** will present the inaugural **James A. Bryan II, MD Award for Excellence in Outpatient Internal Medicine** on Monday, May 17th, 12 Noon, Old Clinic Building. Awards will be given to an intern, a junior resident, and a senior resident.

**FROM THE CHAIR'S OFFICE**

This week's column focuses on our affiliation with the Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). The ACGME is a private professional organization responsible for the accreditation of post-MD medical training programs within the United States. The ACGME accredits residency programs in 110 specialty and subspecialty areas of medicine, including all programs leading to

primary Board certification by the 24 member boards of the American Board of Medical Specialties.

The mission of the ACGME is to assure that all trainees are competent in six areas that are important in the practice of medicine:

1. patient care,
2. medical knowledge,
3. interpersonal and communication skills,
4. professionalism,
5. practice-based learning and improvement
6. systems-based practice.

These competencies are the basis of a program's accreditation. All programs are reviewed at regular intervals by the ACGME and the programs in the Department of Medicine will be reviewed this year.

How does this process work? The Department submits to ACGME, by June 26th, a comprehensive self-study document outlining details of our internal medicine and subspecialty training programs. After a thorough review, ACGME will send a site visitor to our program. The site visitor is a fact-finder whose job it is to verify and clarify the information we have outlined in our self-study document. He/She will interview the program director, members of the teaching faculty, residents, subspecialty residents, administrators and other key personnel. Following the visit, the site visitor composes an objective narrative report based on the information collected during the interviews. This document is factual and non-judgmental, and reports omissions or discrepancies between our self-study document and their findings. Site visitors are prohibited from making recommendations. Finally, the self-study document and the site-visitor report will be reviewed by the Residency Review Committee (RRC). On the basis of this review, we are granted full or provisional accreditation.

**Lee Berkowitz**, who has put together our teaching programs and has contributed to this week's column on accreditation, **has contacted many of you in the department to complete the required forms for the subspecialty programs.** Please be sure that you return these to us by the **June 15th deadline** so that we, in turn, can review the information, collate, and submit to ACGME in time to meet their deadline.

As many of you know, initiatives to monitor residents' clinical education are a high national priority and ACGME, for the next three years, will also ask residents to complete an online survey. All information submitted will be kept confidential. However, the outcome data may be used to make policy decisions at a national level. Each program must have at least 70% participation to meet compliance. Residents are asked to respond to 33 questions on a wide variety of issues involving their teaching. Note that this survey is not, in any way, linked to our site visit.

A few weeks ago, one of my columns discussed our success in the "match". All faculty, staff and residents of the Department work hard at our teaching mission and these efforts clearly are a very positive influence when medical students consider their future training in internal medicine. The process of completing our self-study document offers the opportunity to both be proud of our successes and to look for opportunities for improvement.

I thank you for your participation in all of our teaching programs and for your help in our upcoming accreditation visit.

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