



# ENDOCRINOLOGY MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

# Welcome Baby Rio Burkard!

Baby Burkard was born on June 9<sup>th</sup> at  
5:28PM.

Mom and Dad are doing great and  
loving every moment as a family.

Congratulations to Carla and Jeremy!

**Rio Jeremiah Burkard**  
**Born on June 9th**  
**Time 5:28p**  
**Weights 7.10**  
**Length 20in**



## Congratulations to our Fellows!

Danielle Dawes

Michaela Gregory

Caitlin Bell



Eugene Looi

Maria Reyes-Ramirez



  
*Congratulations*

Dr. Michael McDermott's dinner for his Lucas Family  
Endowed Chair Celebration



# SAVE THE DATE!

Wednesday, July 16<sup>th</sup> we will Honoring Dr. Michael McDermott's service as Clinical Practice Director  
at T-Street from 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

We will be offering:  
Light Hor 'Devours and Non-Alcoholic Beverages

We look forward to seeing you there!



# New Fellows Onboarding



**Andrew Barr, MD**



**Kevin Ni, MD**



**Swecha Potharaj, MD**



**Maanasa Reddy, MD**

Welcome to the Division of Endocrinology!

# Awards



**Bryan Haugen**

MD

Professor

Department of Medicine

Bryan Haugen, MD, is a Professor in the Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism, Department of Medicine and Mary Rossick Kern and Jerome H. Kern Chair in Endocrine Neoplasms Research, University of Colorado School of Medicine.

Dr. Haugen earned his medical degree from the Mayo Clinic School of Medicine in 1987 before he completed his residency in Medicine and Endocrine Fellowship at CU. He has been an extremely valuable member who rose through the ranks of leadership in the Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism, and Diabetes over the years, and served as Head of the Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism and Diabetes for 17 years.

“

Dr. Haugen is a model of professionalism. He is compassionate and approachable in all his interactions, known for his ability to listen, support, advocate, and lead. He embodies the qualities of humanism, and his opinions and actions are highly respected because of his integrity and strong character. He is what others aspire to become.

— **Whitney Goldner, MD**, Professor, Medicine

Nominator

”

Drs. Bryan Haugen and Janine Higgins were awarded the 2025 Distinguished Faculty Professionalism Award on June 5, 2025.

Congratulations to you both!



**Janine Higgins**

PhD

Professor

Department of Medicine

Janine Higgins, PhD, is Professor in the Department of Medicine at University of Colorado School of Medicine.

Over the course of her career, Dr. Higgins has built an extraordinary portfolio as a scientist, educator, and leader. Her work spans the full spectrum of translational nutrition and metabolism, integrating insights from foundational animal research to population-level community studies. She serves as Vice Chair for Research in the Department of Medicine, and as the Director of Operations and the MPI of the CCTSI. Dr. Higgins was nominated and accepted into the national Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM) program.

“

It is rare to find a leader who so seamlessly integrates personal integrity, professional achievement, and the ability to inspire and elevate those around them. Dr. Janine Higgins not only meets but exceeds the criteria for this award. She is a model of professionalism.

— **Sunita Sharma, MD**, Associate Professor, Medicine

Nominator

”



**Dr. Sean Iwamoto**

(he/him)

Dr. Sean Iwamoto is a board-certified adult endocrinologist and assistant professor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and Rocky Mountain Regional VA Medical Center. He co-founded the UCHHealth Integrated Transgender Program in 2017, providing care to transgender and gender diverse Coloradans. His research focuses on gender-affirming hormone therapy, cardiometabolic and bone health, and aging. Dr. Iwamoto has held leadership roles with the World Professional Association for Transgender Health, the VA's National LGBTQ+ Health Program, and the Endocrine Society. He is a mentor and dedicated community advocate, having served as a Trevor Project counselor and continuing to volunteer with Project Angel Heart alongside his husband, Andy.

Dr. Sean Iwamoto will be a recipient at the 2025 One Colorado Prism Awards on October 4<sup>th</sup>!

"The Prism Awards is One Colorado's annual gala to honor individuals and organizations who have made a substantive difference in the lives of LGBTQIA+ Coloradans and their families...who have helped advance LGBTQIA+ equality through healthcare, youth empowerment, community activism, and policy reform."

**\*Click on photo to access website\***



**Dr. Katja Kiseljak-Vassiliades  
received her VA Merit score.  
She is 4.6% in tile!  
Her score was 168 and it looks fundable!!!**

Dr. Saxon was featured on 7 News!



”



**“We’re actually the only facility in the region.** So we’ve had, historically, patients who come in on the regular — again, maybe every two weeks — from out of state, including some who will fly in or travel really long distances to receive this care.”

**Dr. David Saxon**

Endocrinologist

**\*Please click on the image to see the article\***



Dr. Wierman just received an Estate Commitment from a grateful patient for \$1,000,000 to help support the Pituitary and Adrenal Program!

The Society of Hospital Medicine has identified University of Colorado Hospital as a top performer in glycemic management per the GC eQUIPS Fall 2025 benchmarking report. SHM conducts a bi-annual report comparing point of care data among 80 participating hospitals.

**WAY TO GO GLUCOSE MANAGEMENT TEAM!!!!**

- [“Moving beyond HbA1c to Glucose patterns: Newer indications for CGM use”](#)  
Shubham Agarwal, MD, Ron T. Varghese, MD, Renato Savian, MD, **Cecilia C. Low Wang, MD, FACE, FACP**, Rodolfo J. Galindo, MD, FACE
- [“Design and baseline characteristics of the STRIDE trial: evaluating semaglutide in people with symptomatic peripheral artery disease and type 2 diabetes”](#)  
Marc P Bonaca, Andrei-Mircea Catarig, Yasemin Hansen, Kim Houlind, Chethana Kalmady Ramesh, Bernhard Ludvik, Joakim Nordanstig, **Neda Rasouli**, Harald Sourij, Subodh Verma

\*Underlined text is hyperlinked to article\*.

- **“Impact of Obesity on Appetite-Related Behaviors and Biomarkers in Older Adults: A Cross-Sectional Study”**

**Sean J Iwamoto**, Tanya M Halliday, Jason R Tregellas, Kristina T Legget, Allison K Hild, Marc-André Cornier

- **“Evolving Role of GLP-1 Therapies in Liver Disease”**

**Mark Lindsay, Gretchen Arndt, Amanda Wieland, Thomas Jensen**

# Clinic Kudos

“**Jill** has been great. She is looking out for my best care. I am happy with the changes Jill has made to my medication. Jill has shared with me why it is important to have a high protein diet.”

“I was greeted with attention and understanding. The reception was dignified. I was surrounded by attention and care. Thank you! I was provided with an interpreter, so I could communicate calmly. Thank you!”

“This was one of the best visits with a doctor that I've ever had. She answered all my questions, but also spent a good amount of time explaining my condition, and explained all treatment options. I felt like my other conditions were considered, and that I was involved in the decision-making process. It was all very transparent.” –Dr. **Lawler**

“**Dr More-Turin** is extremely thorough and an expert in her field. She is compassionate and genuinely cares. She takes the time to listen, and is actively concerned in making my life and condition better. I appreciate her so incredibly much.”

“I felt that she was inquisitive and empathetic to my needs.”- **Karina Tlaxcala-Hernandez**

“I came way early expecting to have a long wait-at least until after lunch. I was seen right away and not treated like I could have come at a later time and like I was being rude to be early. Even the busy reception people were friendly and kind.”

**-Dr. La Greca**

“I appreciate her non-rushed pace, her ability to thoughtfully pull together the facts/data and reflect and give insight. **Dr Fishbein** is an outstanding provider and researcher! UC Health is lucky to have her on staff.”

“Dr. **McDermott** is the best provider that I could hope for to help me navigate my diabetes. He is compassionate and friendly and always takes my input seriously. I dread the day that he decides to retire!!!”

“Dr. **Brook** is the best. Doctor Brook just don't talk at you she talks to you.”

“This was the first time I met Dr. **Griff**. I look forward to working with her in the future.”

“Dr. **Iwamoto** is very professional and caring. He has been my provider for many years and I have never had a problem or a complain.”

“I'm so very appreciative of the care and support you have provided me. Thank you Dr **Kiseljak**.”

“Dr. **Finn** is absolutely incredible! I feel so fortunate to have her as part of my health care team. She is knowledgeable, spends time answering my questions, encourages me to participate in my health decisions, and takes into accounts all my medical issues when providing recommendations.”

“I love Dr. **Rothman** and the entire team at UC Health. Dr. Rothman has taken wonderful care of me for many years. She has always been sympathetic to my concerns and knowledgeable about the best treatment going forward for my Addison's Disease. Everyone in the department is warm, personable, and professional, which includes the receptionist, the in-take nurse, the physician, and the phlebotomist. I'm very thankful for the excellent team at UC Health”

“Dr **Low Wang** is a superlative physician. State of the art care combined with a caring approach.”

“**Jill** listens carefully and takes into consideration questions that I have, is a good educator, and listens to my goals and discusses options that will work for me personally. She's a good provider. I appreciate that.”

“Dr. **Haugen** and his team are the absolutely best in terms of capability and professionalism. It is also an added plus that my appointment always starts on time.”

“I feel I'm in good hands with Dr. **Hernandez** she is very thorough with explaining where we are at and what our next plan is. She takes the time to explain anything I may not understand and I appreciate her !”

“Dr. **Thomas Jensen** was very helpful in his suggestions to help me explore all my options for treatment for my metastatic neuroendocrine carcinoma. He suggested a type of PET scan that would give me a clearer understanding of where these tumors have spread throughout my body and is referring me to your specialists in Gastrointestinal Oncology, which I appreciated.”

“Dr **Lawler** is very kind, Listens to all questions & concerns. Giving enough time for all concern.”

“My provider was very friendly and astute. He listened to my questions, and acknowledged them with clear responses. His mannerisms helped me feel comfortable and in good hands, as he laid out my schedule for care going forward. He also showed his appreciation of the nursing staff, their knowledge, and day to day importance in office operations. That certainly put an accent on CU team work.” –Dr. **Jensen**

“Dr **Rasouli** always takes time to listen to my concerns and issues. She is kind and friendly!”

““Dr. **Rothman** continues to provide considerate care. Her response to my recent message was surprisingly quick, especially for a Friday. My questions were answered and next steps explained. I received pertinent responses from both Dr. Rothman and her assistant. Timely and helpful.”

“Very friendly, was seen on time, brought back very thorough during the visit, and the provider was on time and did not seem rushed and spent adequate time with me to answer all my questions.” –**Jenn Vinh**

“The staff in the Diabetes Endocrinology Clinic are very supportive and very welcoming and did all, every task, made every task easy and a pleasure to deal with. Thank you.”

“Dr. **Tupta**, she's been excellent. She's a great doctor. She takes good care of me and I really appreciate her time and I couldn't say anything more. She's just wonderful.”

“**Boyd** was very patient and listened to what was important to me”

“I was greeted with attention and understanding. The reception was dignified. I was surrounded by attention and care. Thank you! I was provided with an interpreter, so I could communicate calmly. Thank you!”

“Dr **Loeb** is fantastic. Dr Loeb always listens to my concerns and provides knowledgeable responses in a compassionate way.”

“Dr **Turin-Moore** is outstanding. Really feel she is after getting me the best end result possible. Explains things completely. I feel fortunate to have her on my care Team. Dr. Catel is great too! Met with them both yesterday and feel great about the care these two are providing me! I Love Anschutz medical!”

“Dr **McDermott** is a very valued advocate for me & always concerned with my knowing that the final decision on any treatment he may suggest is always my choice. As he likes to say - "We are on the same team". His kindness & compassion shows how much he cares for my welfare.”

“Dr **Low Wang** is an incredibly knowledgeable and caring doctor. It is a privilege to be in the care of someone like her”

“Dr **Brooks** always displays excellence in her professional approach and does all in a most friendly manner thus, it becomes a great visit and very informative providing superior guidance for the future. It is a pleasure to meet with her.”

“Dr. **Jensen** is so knowledgeable compassionate and understanding. He's very busy and always takes time to listen and give me a lot of feedback!”

“I whole heartedly trust Dr. **Rothman**. I feel heard and seen. I am beyond fortunate to have been referred to her.”

“The **staff** was very kind and caring ,we didn't have to wait for very long , we live 3 hours away, but is so worth the trip! Erin (**Meyerhoff**) is awesome! Always very professional and listens and cares about my health”

“Dr. **Arwa Elsheikh** was very attentive during the visit, shows empathy, caring, etc' and she never rush you. She is a very effective doctor for my issue”

“The **staff** was great, very courteous. The doctor took a good amount of time to explain to me and talk to me about my options, what he was seeing, and was very thorough. So I appreciated his bedside manner. The entire staff was great.”

“**Daniel Boyd, Mr. Boyd** is an amazing provider. He does his job quite well. He's been very understanding and very open with what's going on. And he knows exactly what he's doing and how to, what can I say, how to stand with the transgender community.”

“Dr. **Choksi** is a great person and doctor. A fantastic human being.”



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Code  
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