



Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology

GI Happenings Newsletter

Prepared by Essence Pedrosa



Dear Colleagues,

Spring is here and we are certainly experiencing the changing of the seasons in so many ways. These are uncertain times and in times of uncertainty, it's natural to feel vulnerable as we navigate the changes in the academic landscape ahead. As highlighted in this issue of **GI Happenings**, we continue to create and innovate in the face of our changing environment.

Indeed, communication remains our top priority. Moreover, we encourage you to reach out and share your thoughts or concerns. We value your voice and your contributions to patient care, trainee education, professional development, and research.

While not easy, I truly believe that we rise and emerge stronger together. Thank you for your commitment to our shared goals.

Best,
Jennifer

IN THIS ISSUE

- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- Celebrating Cultural Awareness
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- Publications
- In case you missed it...
- Upcoming Events

IMPORTANT DATES

- **April 6th**, 9 am – Katy O. and Paul M Rady Esophageal and Gastric Center of Excellence 5K Run/Walk
- **April 7th**, 5:30 pm – Mehta Memorial Lectureship – Krugman Conference Hall
- **April 20th**, – All physician CO medical license renewal due
- **April 21st**, Visiting Professor – Dr. Anjana Pillai

SAVE THE DATE

- **Saturday, April 5th, 2025**
Sixth Annual Paul R. O'Hara II Esophagogastric Symposium
- **May 2nd-7th** DDW will be held in San Diego, CA

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion:

"Here at the University of Colorado School of Medicine (CUSOM), we believe diversity enhances the learning environment, strengthens the visibility and ties to nearby communities, and contributes to the community's overall health through programs and trainings focused on decreasing health disparities and increasing health equity in accordance with the mission of the medical school.

The CUSOM Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ODEI) is committed to connecting faculty, staff, students, residents and the community-at-large with services and departments throughout the university system that will assist and support your academic and professional success. We also work to develop a respectful, diverse and inclusive environment in the School of Medicine and across the Anschutz Medical Campus where all members of the community feel supported to be successful in achieving the mission of health through our educational programs, patient care and research."

Request a Training, Consultation or Speaker [here](#).

Celebrating Cultural Awareness



AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS

ASGE Distinguished Service Award

Steven A. Edmundowicz, MD, MASGE will receive the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy 2025 Distinguished Service Award! ASGE and the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology will celebrate his remarkable achievements during ASGE Foundation's Crystal Awards Gala at on May 4 <https://hubs.ly/Q036Gd3J0>



Congratulations to the GI Named Scholar Research Awardees

The Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology is proud to announce the establishment of two new faculty scholar research awards. In a collaboration with our senior faculty generous contributions (Drs. Jennifer Christie and Sean Colgan) and the Department of Medicine, two scholars have been selected to receive \$25,000 each year for two years for basic science and clinical research support.



Dr. Alfredo Ornelas Sanchez was awarded the Colgan Family Basic Science Research Award



Dr. Benjamin Click was awarded the The Christie-Gee Family Clinical Research Award

American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Governing Board Nomination

Sachin Wani MD, FASGE, AGAF was nominated to the 2025-2026 ASGE Slate of Governing Board Officers and Councilors.

HEPATOLOGY!

Hepatology and Liver Transplantation Webinar Series

The 2025 Hepatology and Liver Transplantation webinar series has begun. We have all new topics that we will be covering presented by members of our Transplant faculty!

This FREE webinar opportunity will give those in the field of Primary Care, Gastroenterology, and Hepatology a chance to earn CME and ABIM MOC credit while exploring timely topics such as Liver Pathology Pearls to Use in Clinical Practice, Management of Cirrhosis in the Clinic, and Updates in Transplant Surgery!!

For more information or to stay up to date on hepatology, check out our website [here](#).



Course Director:
Avash Kalra, MD
Assistant
Professor
Director of Liver
Transplant
Outreach and
Strategic
Development

RESEARCH NEWS

Highlighted Publications

- Katherine Dickerman was first author on a manuscript that was recently published in the Journal of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners. The article was written by the WellIDOM team and several APPs in the DOM describing our qualitative data on APP's professional experience and what factors influence job satisfaction and feeling valued. Click [here](#) for article.
- Check out Swati Patel's recent study [Yield of Multigene Panel Germline Genetic Testing Among Those With Advanced Colorectal Adenomas](#) published in *Gastroenterology*.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

Katelyn Cookson, PA-C, was a Course Co-Director for the **ASGE GI Advanced Practice Provider (APP) Course** held on March 21-22, 2025. This program was a huge success which outstanding attendance and great clinical presentations. New this year was the addition of a professional development track for attendees to learn more about professional development opportunities, including leading as an APP.

In March We Celebrated Women's History Month

The Gastroenterology and Hepatology fellows and faculty gathered to cultivate our relationships in celebrations of Women's History Month. These meet-ups are priceless.



Faculty Development Corner

An important note from Swati Patel, MD, Associate Division Director for Faculty Development and Advancement:

Please plan to attend GI Grand Rounds on June 30th. We will round out the academic year with a special Grand Rounds entitled **Purpose-Driven Areas of Medicine: Looking Outside of the Box**. A panel of GI faculty will discuss the various ways they have sought enrichment outside of typical day to day responsibilities. Come hear about Paul Menard-Katcher's sabbatical, Avash Kalra and Meg O'Meara's work in clinical outreach and relationship building, Gus Attwell's international endeavors, Lisa Forman and Alexis Oonk's work in patient advocacy, Ian Cartwright and Prashanth Francis' adventures in enriching the STEM pipeline, Steve Edmundowicz's innovation, Mike Kriss' involvement in professional society leadership, and more! In addition to learning about all of the amazing things our colleagues do, this will be a great opportunity to get some inspiration, tips, and tricks on how to push into new areas. In-person attendance will be most enriching; however, we will also broadcast via Zoom for those unable to attend.

APP Promotion Congratulations!

Cate Brady has been promoted to Assistant Professor of Medicine. Cate serves as the Program Director for the Gastroenterology APP Fellowship Program. A leader in APP education and training, Cate has been instrumental in shaping structured learning opportunities for advanced practice providers in gastroenterology. Cate has a passion for mentorship, leadership, and program development. She drives innovation in APP education, ensuring the next generation of GI APPs are well-equipped to meet the increasing demand for specialized care.

Katie Dickerman has been promoted to Assistant Professor of Medicine. Katie has been with the Division of Gastroenterology at the University of Colorado since 2016 and has served as the Lead APP since 2019, playing a key role in growing the APP team from 3 to 14 members. In addition to her clinical work, Katie is deeply committed to mentorship, studying the dynamics of high-performing teams and fostering a workplace in which thriving culture is the norm. Recently, Katie completed training to become a certified executive coach and is excited to continue supporting her colleagues and peers in their professional growth.

Kristy Severson has been promoted to Senior Instructor. Kristy has been advanced practice provider since 2006 and joined the GI section at the University of Colorado Highlands Ranch Hospital in 2020. She is a dedicated patient advocate, earning accolades from her peers and colleagues. She was recently awarded the Advanced Practice Practitioner (APP) of the Year award at Highlands Ranch Hospital. She plans to pursue a Doctorate of Nursing Practice, which will enhance her leadership and clinical expertise as she continues to provide high-level, excellent care to patients

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mehta Memorial Lectureship

Please join us for the 2025 Dr. Sunder J. Mehta Memorial Lectureship and Dinner on Monday, April 7 at 5:30 p.m. in the Krugman Conference Hall, Research 2 Building on Anschutz Medical Campus 12700 E 19th Ave, Aurora, CO 80045.

An outstanding fellow will receive the 2025 Sunder J. Mehta, MD Memorial Lectureship Mehta-Makhijani Fellow Award, and Dr. Edwin Liu from Children's Hospital Colorado will present!

Please RSVP [here](#). Please reach out to Matthew McLean if you have any questions, and we look forward to seeing you there!

Join the Division of Gastroenterology & Hepatology

Grand Rounds

and

Sunder J. Mehta Memorial Lectureship

Gluten-Free Science: Digestible Updates in Celiac Disease



Featured Mehta Lecturer: Edwin Liu, MD

Taplin Endowed Chair for Celiac Disease
Professor of Pediatrics
Director, Colorado Center for Celiac Disease
Digestive Health Institute, Children's Hospital
Colorado

Monday, April 7, 2025
5:30-8:00 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE

SIXTH ANNUAL
PAUL R. O'HARA II ESOPHAGOGASTRIC SYMPOSIUM

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2025
ANSCHUTZ HEALTH SCIENCE BUILDING
DON ELLIMAN CONFERENCE CENTER



REGISTER HERE

Providers will have a unique chance to engage with esteemed practitioners specializing in esophageal and gastric disorders. They will be able to collaborate with colleagues and gain insights directly from patients. The discussions will cover a range of topics, including benign conditions, screening guidelines, pre- and post-treatment care, holistic approaches to patient well-being, and the latest discoveries in research.

CME AVAILABLE

This activity has been approved for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™*



Katy O. and Paul M. Rady Esophageal
and Gastric Center of Excellence
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5K RUN & WALK



Sunday, April 6th | 9 AM

Anschutz Medical Campus - Boettcher Commons

JOIN US IN RAISING AWARENESS FOR ESOPHAGEAL CANCER

Event Sponsored By:



More Info & Registration:



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