

It's been a busy summer for the Mary H. Weiser Food Allergy Center!

Since you last heard from us, we've had our Annual Spring Luncheon, one of our clinician researchers has been featured on Fox News, we have awarded three pilot grants, and we've participated in a variety of outreach events.

Please read all about our busy summer raising awareness and our research successes.



Picture credit: Melissa Scola, Summer 2019

2019 Spring Luncheon raises more than \$200,000

In what has become a yearly tradition, generous guests helped bolster science while enjoying great food, networking, a spirited panel discussion and silent auction in support of food allergy discovery at the University of Michigan.

The April event was the fifth annual spring fundraising luncheon hosted by the Mary H. Weiser Food Allergy Center. It took place at Knollwood Country Club in West Bloomfield and featured a talk by Kyle Dine, who lives with allergies to peanuts, tree nuts, eggs, seafood and mustard. The self-described "allergy guy" travels and performs across North America and Europe, making it his mission to help children learn about food allergies in a way that is fun, engaging and empowering.

"We are deeply grateful to everyone who participated in and learned from this gathering," said James R. Baker, MD, founding director of the center. "The fundraising is significant to our efforts, and, more importantly, we appreciate the opportunity to engage our supporters in this very important cause."

APRIL 30, 2019

MARY H. WEISER
FOOD ALLERGY CENTER
spring luncheon

KNOLLWOOD COUNTRY CLUB
WEST BLOOMFIELD, MI

Severe Childhood Allergy Receiving More Awareness

FPIES (Food Protein-Induced Enterocolitis Syndrome) is a rare disease that's extremely difficult to diagnose. Dr. Malika Gupta from the University of Michigan Food Allergy Clinic and the Mary H. Weiser Food Allergy Center, explains her research associated to this disease.

[To watch the video, click on the picture above or this link.](#)

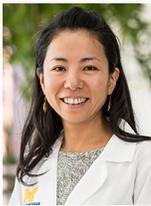


Three new grants to fund food allergy research at U-M

The Mary H. Weiser Food Allergy Center is pleased to announce that three University of Michigan researchers are this year's recipients of the Michigan Food Allergy Research Accelerator Program (M-FARA) Pilot Research Grants.

The one-year, renewable \$50,000 grants are funded by the Michigan Food Allergy Research Accelerator Program (M-FARA), which is a gift from a generous donor. This gift provides the MHWFAC the financial support needed to establish a program designed to transform the understanding of the fundamental mechanisms that are driving an increase in food allergy rates. Additionally, the program seeks to develop innovative strategies to diagnose and treat food allergies.

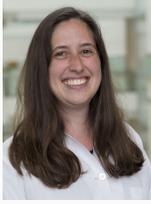
The grants recipients and their projects are:



Taeko Noah, Ph.D.

Research Investigator, MHWFAC; Department of Pathology

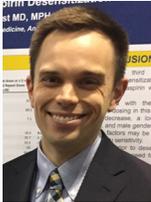
“Tuft cells as a driver of reactivity to food allergens”



Catherine Ptaschinski, Ph.D.

Research Assistant Professor, MHWFAC; Department of Pathology

“Role of the intestinal epithelial barrier on the development of Food Allergy”



Charles Schuler IV, M.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor, MHWFAC; Allergy Division, Department of Internal Medicine

“Investigating biomarkers and mechanisms of food anaphylaxis”

Congratulations to all of the recipients of the M-FARA Pilot Grants!

Researchpalooza

The Mary H. Weiser Food Allergy Center research faculty and staff joined volunteers from the Food Allergy Clinic to participate in our first ever Researchpalooza. Researchpalooza is hosted by the University of Michigan Medical School Office of Research and attracts over 3,500 attendees. Our exhibit was heavily attended, with visitors learning about food allergy research directly from our expert scientists. In addition, Dr. Malika Gupta and Bridgette Kaul, demonstrated and trained those interested in how to use an epinephrine auto-injector. The event was enjoyed by everyone and we are already looking forward to Researchpalooza 2020!

If you'd like to learn more about Researchpalooza go [here](#)



Top photo: Our booth

Middle Left: Nick Lukacs, PhD & Bridgette Kaul-clinic nurse assisting with epi-pen instruction

Middle Right: Gary Huffnagle, PhD

Bottom Left: Chang Kim, PhD & Simon Hogan, PhD

Bottom Right: Malika Gupta, MD & Bridgette Kaul

Picture Credit: Melissa Scola, August 15, 2019

Allergy Emergency Training for Childcare

Professionals

Dr. Chase Schuler visited Temple Beth El Early Childhood Center in Bloomfield Hills in late August to provide important training and education to the center's preschool professionals. Dr. Schuler demonstrated the use of two different types of epinephrine auto-injectors and the preschool teachers were able to practice using the devices on oranges. As prevalent as allergies have become, it is essential that educators and child care providers are trained to respond to a serious food allergic reaction.

"This was so fantastic! Dr. Schuler did a great job ... he was informative, knowledgeable, and funny too. We hope to stay in touch and hopefully continue this every fall," stated Susie Weiner, Director of the Temple Beth El Early Childhood Center.



Picture credit: Melissa Scola, August 26, 2019

To end our satisfying summer, we want to thank our donors and remind you that none of this is possible without the generous gifts that you make to the Mary H. Weiser Food Allergy Center. Please save the date for our annual Giving BlueDay event which is December 3, 2019.

SAVE THE DATE
GIVING BLUE DAY IS **DECEMBER 3RD**



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