



**MICHIGAN MEDICINE**  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

# Palliative Care Newsletter

Adult Palliative Care Program  
1500 E. Medical Center Drive, SPC 5233  
F7896 UH South  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-5233

Fall 2019

## *Palliative Care Conference Schedule*

### **HPM Lecture Series-**

*Thursdays from 2:00-4:00 PM  
VA/ GRECC Conference Room  
Room F206 or  
UH South Room F7898*

### **Palliative Care**

### **Research Conferences-**

*4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of every month  
from 4:00-5:00 PM  
VA/ GRECC Conference Room  
Room F206*

*January 23, 2020 -  
Lesli Skolarus*

*February 27, 2020 -  
Grace Kanzawa-Lee*

*March 26, 2020 -  
Christopher Friese*

*April 23, 2020 -  
Lauren Gerlach*

*May 28, 2020 -  
Victoria Powell*

*June 25, 2020 -  
Suzanna Zick*

*For other conferences, visit:  
[http://www.med.umich.edu/i/geriatrics\\_center/monthly-schedule/index.htm](http://www.med.umich.edu/i/geriatrics_center/monthly-schedule/index.htm)*



## **First Annual Palliative Care Research Lectureship a Success**

Thanks to support from a generous UM alumnus, the first Annual Palliative Care Research Lectureship was held on June 28th 2019. Dr. Jennifer Temel, Professor of Medicine from Harvard Medical School and the Clinical Director of Thoracic Oncology at Massachusetts General Hospital, was the speaker. She spoke about her cutting-edge research demonstrating the benefits of early integrated palliative care in the care of patients with lung cancer. On the basis of her research, the American Society of Clinical Oncology currently recommends referral to interdisciplinary palliative care teams that provide inpatient and outpatient care early in the course of disease, alongside active treatment of their cancer. This kind of care has been shown to improve quality of life, reduce distress, and lengthen life. Dr. Temel currently partners with the UM Palliative Care Program on a PCORI-funded study to examine the benefits of palliative care via video visits for patients with advanced lung cancer. At least sixty UM lung cancer patients will be participating in this exciting study.



**To make a gift to the Adult  
Palliative Care Program:**

[https://leadersandbest.umich.edu/  
find/#/give/basket/fund/313228](https://leadersandbest.umich.edu/find/#/give/basket/fund/313228)

# Meet Our Incoming 2019-2020 HPM Physician Fellows!

## Adult Track



**Jayme Meredith Laurencelle, M.D.**  
Med School: Wayne State University  
School of Medicine  
Residency: University of Michigan (IM)

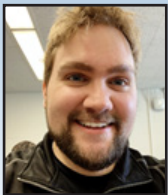


**Elizabeth Joy Nafziger, M.D.**  
Med School: Indiana University  
School of Medicine  
Residency: University of Michigan (Neuro)



**Meaghan Elizabeth Trainor, M.D.**  
Med School: University of Wisconsin  
School of Medicine and Public Health  
Residency: University of Michigan (IM)

## HPM NP Track



**Cullen Gettings, B.S.N.**  
Bachelor of Science in Nursing:  
Capital University  
Master of Science in Nursing, Primary Care  
Adult Gerontology: Ohio State University

## Peds Track



**Natalie Renee Kontos, D.O.**  
Med School: Lake Erie College  
of Osteopathic Medicine  
Residency: St. John Hospital and  
Medical Center



**David Charles Muccino, M.D.**  
Med School: Loyola University  
Chicago Stritch School of Medicine  
Residency: University of  
Connecticut (Pediatrics)

## Combined Track



**Joseph Dixon, M.D.**  
Med School: Keck School of  
Medicine of the University of  
Southern California  
Residency: Kaiser Permanente;  
Woodland Hills, CA

## Palliative Care Program Partners with Cancer Center

Due to the well-deserved retirement of our friend and colleague Susan Urba MD, there has been a change in physician staffing at the Symptom Management and Supportive Care Clinic in the Rogel Cancer Center. Palliative Care Program members Dr. Ketti Petersen and Dr. Maria Silveira will be stepping in to fill Susan's big shoes so that Michigan Medicine's cancer patients can continue to receive the compassionate palliative care that they need. They will be teaming up with Katie Patterson, the nurse practitioner who has served as the backbone of the program. Their goal is to help expand the program to improve access to timely and robust palliative care.



Our beloved colleague,  
Dr. Susan Urba, retired  
in June.

## Two Investigators Chosen for Palliative Care Research Funding

Thanks to the generosity of the University of Michigan community, the Palliative Care Program is able to fund pilot work investigators interested in palliative care research this year. The winners of the 2018/9 “Pilot and Exploratory Projects in Palliative Care” competition are Dr. Lauren Gerlach from Psychiatry and Dr. Maria Silveira from Internal Medicine.



Dr. Gerlach plans a mixed method study to explore the challenges in managing behavioral symptoms in hospice patients with dementia. In particular, she is interested in describing how providers and caregivers balance the risks and benefits of psychotropic use for this population.



Dr. Silveira plans to examine the neurobiology of pain among patients with non small cell lung cancer. She will be collaborating with Dr. Dan Clauw and members from the Chronic Pain and Fatigue Research Center on this work.

## “Clinical Issues in the Care of Older Adults: Palliative Care for Patients with Dementia and Serious Mental Illness”

Michigan Medicine and the VA Ann Arbor Geriatrics Research, Education and Clinical Center (GRECC) sponsored the conference “Clinical Issues in the Care of Older Adults: Palliative Care for Patients with Dementia and Serious Mental Illness” which happened on September 19, 2019 at the Kensington Hotel in Ann Arbor.

The program was directed by Dr. Marcos Montagnini and Dr. Susan Maixner and included national and local speakers. Some of the topics included: serious mental illness and behavioral and psychological symptoms in dementia; clinical course, outcomes and decision-making in advanced dementia; pain in dementia and serious mental illness; homelessness, serious mental illness, and aging; communication skills, decision-making capacity, caregiver distress; and dementia at the end-of-life.

Over 150 participants from multiple disciplines (Medicine, Nursing, Social Work, Psychology, etc) attended the conference. Conference evaluations demonstrated a very high level of satisfaction with the topics, speakers and the venue. It was a big success!

## Palliative Care Research Funding Available

We are pleased to announce the annual launch of the “Pilot and Exploratory Projects in Palliative Care” competition. Investigators can receive as much as \$20,000 per study to fund 2 years of pilot research focused on palliative care for patients with life limiting illness and/or their caregivers. Brief applications from UM faculty are due November 1, 2019. The announcement and application can be accessed at: <https://umms.infoready4.com>



**MICHIGAN MEDICINE**  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Adult Palliative Care Program  
1500 E. Medical Center Drive, SPC 5233  
F7896 UH South  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-5233

---

Non Profit Org  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit #144  
Ann Arbor, MI

---

To request more information: (734) 936-8357  
Referring Physicians: Contact M-LINE at 1-800-962-3555

---

## Clinic Locations:

### General:

#### **Palliative Care Clinic**

East Ann Arbor Health Center  
(patients over 45 years of age)  
4260 Plymouth Road (near US-23)  
Ann Arbor, Michigan  
(734) 764-6831

#### **Adult Palliative Care Clinic**

Briarwood Family Medicine  
1801 Briarwood Circle, Building 10  
Ann Arbor, Michigan  
(734) 998-7390

### Disease Specific:

#### **Symptom Management and Supportive Care Clinic**

Rogel Cancer Center  
Med Inn  
Ann Arbor, Michigan  
(877) 907-0859 or (734) 232-6366

#### **Palliative and Supportive Care Clinic**

Frankel Cardiovascular Center  
1500 E. Medical Center Drive  
Ann Arbor, Michigan  
(888) 287-1082 or (734) 232-6366

Executive Officers of Michigan Medicine: Marschall S. Runge, M.D., Ph.D., Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs, Dean, U-M Medical School, CEO, Michigan Medicine; David A. Spahlinger, M.D., President, Michigan Medicine, and Executive Vice Dean for Clinical Affairs, U-M Medical School; Patricia D. Hurn, Ph.D., Dean, School of Nursing.

Regents of the University of Michigan: Jordan B. Acker, Michael J. Behm, Mark J. Bernstein, Paul W. Brown, Shauna Ryder Diggs, Denise Ilitch, Ron Weiser, Katherine E. White, Mark S. Schlissel, (ex officio).

The University of Michigan, as an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer, complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action. The University of Michigan is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, religion, height, weight, or veteran status in employment, educational programs and activities, and admissions. Inquiries or complaints may be addressed to the Senior Director for Institutional Equity, and Title IX/Section 504/ADA Coordinator, Office for Institutional Equity, 2072 Administrative Services Building, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1432, 734-763-0235, TTY 734-647-138 institutional.equity@umich.edu. For other University of Michigan information call 734-764-1817.