

The PsychList

~A modern "spin" on UBMD Psychiatry news and events~



A Note from the Chair...



Steven Dubovsky, MD,
Department Chair

Our 2021 faculty recognition dinner was a landmark event. Not only were we able to step over the physical barrier between friends and colleagues that has sprung up in response to the pandemic and meet new associates, but we were reminded of the breadth and depth of accomplishments of our faculty during this difficult year. We also had the opportunity to recognize the many contributions to departmental initiatives of the Patrick Lee Foundation. The Foundation, which is devoted to finding creative ways of improving care of people with severe and chronic psychiatric illnesses, provided the funding that expanded continuum of care projects like the MAP clinic and the APIC program, underwrites a scholarship for medical students entering psychiatry who are committed to settling in Western New York, and underwrites our psychology internship. It is difficult to imagine a more productive and creative relationship than the one between the Department of Psychiatry and the Patrick Lee Foundation.

As stressful as the past year has been, it has given us the opportunity to learn how well we will meet our professional and personal responsibilities when we feel threatened. Given the nature of some acute illnesses, especially in the current climate in which criminals who will be released from custody immediately are brought to the hospital instead, an element of personal risk has always been a factor in psychiatry; but the continually blaring message of danger we are now exposed to as citizens has added a new dimension of fearfulness to entering the emergency department, the hospital, or any patient care area. As is often said, personal courage does not involve ignoring fear in such situations, but doing one's best despite fear. As clinicians, it is incumbent on us to transmit to our patients, all of whom are frightened of something, how to tell the difference between caution and paranoia and maximize their inner resources to do the best they can with the challenges they face. To the extent we can do so ourselves, we will be more effective healers for our patients and role models for our students. It is clear however, that we cannot succeed in isolation from each other. No one is- or should be- that independent.

As we continue to implement creative innovations that fill gaps in systems we cannot control, we should be encouraged by the realization that we can control our own behavior, and our ability to think clearly, when confronted by systemic exigencies, no matter how daunting. As we continue to look to each other, and to our outstanding collaborators in the community for encouragement and support, we can remain confident in our ability to surmount whatever trials continue to present themselves.



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Special points of interest

- 2021 Faculty/Staff Appreciation Awards
- AACAP Award Winner



2021 Faculty/Staff Appreciation Awards



The Department of Psychiatry, along with the University at Buffalo, the State University of New York, proudly honored the recipients of Faculty and Staff Appreciation Awards for their Outstanding Contributions in the following:

Zhanna Elberg, MD

Clinical Assistant Professor
Clinical Mission of the Department



Stephanie Ficarro, PhD

Research Assistant Professor
Forensic Psychiatry

Joshua Russell, MD

Clinical Assistant Professor
Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

Joel Russell, LMSW

Licensed Master Social Worker
Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

Charles Camp, MD

Clinical Assistant Professor
Medical Student Education

William Boggiano, MD

Clinical Assistant Professor
Medical Student Education

Matthew Abrams, PhD

Volunteer Clinical Assistant Professor
Resident Education
Dr. Stephen Scheiber Award



George Burnett, MD

Clinical Assistant Professor
Resident Education
Dr. Stephen Scheiber Award

Daniel Antonius, PhD

Associate Professor
Research in the Department
Dr. Kenneth Altshuler Award

Corey Leidenfrost, PhD

Research Assistant Professor
Overall Contribution
Dr. Josie Olympia Award

Patrick P. Lee Foundation

Outstanding Contributions
Department of Psychiatry



Elizabeth Sengupta, MAT

Residency Program Administrator
Excellence in Staff Contributions

Justice Timothy J. Walker

Excellence in the Community

The 100+ award recognizes outstanding contributions from our volunteer faculty whom have contributed over 100 hours of teaching, mentoring, and service annually within the Department of Psychiatry. This year's honorees include:

Sarah Adragna
Anne Roseberry

Helen Aronoff
Joel Russell

Christopher Fitzgerald
Diana Sanderson

Chelsey McCabe
Mohammed Saeed

The Department of Psychiatry 20 Year Milestone Volunteer Service Award recipients include:

Joseph Alessi Susan Bundy-Myrow Don Crawford David Myrow Dianna Sanderson Steve Skiffington

Patient Determination is Essential to Billing Cessation Codes

Submitted By: Agnes Macakanja, BA, CPC

Question: The doctor saw a patient who complained about his tobacco use, but expressed no interest in quitting- at least not in the documentation in the medical record. Can it be inferred—from the fact the patient brought up the subject—that he was asking for cessation help and bill 99406 (Smoking and tobacco use cessation counseling visit; intermediate, greater than 3 minutes and up to 10 minutes) or 99407(...; greater than 10 minutes)?

Answer: No. You cannot bill 99406 or 99407 according to Current Procedural Terminology (CPT)®

In order to bill cessation codes, the items you must document—including the “assessed willingness to attempt to quit” - are:

- ◇ The patient’s actual tobacco use.
- ◇ That you advised the patient to quit and the impact of smoking.
- ◇ That you assessed the patient’s willingness to attempt to quit.
- ◇ That you provided methods and skills to stop tobacco use.
- ◇ Medication management of smoking cessation drugs.
- ◇ All resources that you provided.
- ◇ Setting an anticipated quit date.
- ◇ That follow-up was arranged.
- ◇ The amount of time you spent counseling the patient.



The documentation in the medical record must support the billing of the cessation code. If it does not, you do not have a separately identifiable service. A sentence in the medical record stating that the doctor spent 10 minutes counseling the patient does not meet the standard for the medical necessity that is needed to bill the cessation code(s).

If the patient’s primary and the specialist are both providing cessation service, once the four-a-year visit total is met, claims will be denied.

Note: These codes cannot be used for vaping cessation counseling because vaping devices do not involve tobacco use. If your patient expresses interest in quitting vaping, bill codes 99401-99404 –unspecified preventive counseling codes.

Sources: Part B answers, CPT, Part B News, AAPC



Submitted by: Sourav Sengupta, MD, MPH

Congratulation to senior Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellows who passed their general psychiatry boards:

Dr. Tejpal Bedi

Dr. Jill Frodey

Dr. Felix Matos

AACAP Marilyn B. Benoit, MD Child Maltreatment Mentorship Award

Submitted By: Beth Smith, MD

It gives me great pleasure to announce that Joshua Russell, MD received The American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) Marilyn B. Benoit, MD, Child Maltreatment Mentorship Award. This award brings attention to issues surrounding child maltreatment.

Dr Russell's project, *Strengthening the Front Lines: A Child Welfare Program for Families and Multidisciplinary Professionals*, includes the creation of a child welfare training curriculum and a website for regional child welfare related information and resources. Dr. Russell's curriculum includes important areas such as system and resource navigation, attachment and understanding attachment disorders, child development, common mental health disorders and evidenced-based treatments, and post-traumatic stress disorder. He has already presented to the Mental Health Advocates of WNY and Parent Network with trainings for both foster parents and child welfare advocates and professionals. Please join me in congratulating Josh!



Congratulations



UB Profile Support

Submitted By: Margaret Uebler-Otoka, Administrative Assistant

Check out this useful site for information on UB Profile which populates the Web Profile, Faculty Review Form, and UBMD Profile.

<https://smbsweb.med.buffalo.edu/ubprofile/public/support.php>



As always, If you have questions, or need assistance, please contact Margaret at mmu3@buffalo.edu.

She will be happy to help you!



UB Profile Support

Using the System

- [How to Login](#)
- [How to Navigate the System](#)
- [How to Add a New Data Record](#)
- [How to Edit a Data Record](#)
- [How to Delete a Data Record](#)
- [How to Search and Sort for a Data Record](#)

General Questions

- [What is the web site for UB Profile?](#)
- [What is my username and password?](#)
- [What if I don't know my UB email password?](#)

Helpful Documents

- [General Information - System 'Cheat-sheet'](#)
- [Annual Faculty Review - Process Summary](#)
- [Annual Faculty Review Report - Creating](#)
- [Annual Faculty Review Report - Saving & Printing](#)
- [Creating a CV Report](#)
- [Modifying Your Web Profile](#)
- [Glossary of Data Entry Sections](#)
- [Using the 'By Category' Tab](#)

Medical Education

Submitted By: Sergio Hernandez, MD, Medical Education Director



As we come to the end of the year, I find myself reflecting on the year that was. One of the biggest developments in our medical education program this year is that *Siegel Award* recipient, Dr. Charles Camp, has been appointed Assistant Psychiatry Clerkship Director. I am thrilled that Charles has taken on this role and his enthusiasm and talent are already being felt. This is a good time for Charles to step into this role, as the School of Medicine is on the verge of several monumental transitions.

As many of you know, I have stepped into the role of Director of the Center for Medical Humanities and have been appointed Humanities Thread Leader for the new curriculum. A great deal of work has been done this year towards the curricular revision which will likely be implemented in 2023. Substantial changes will take place in all 4 years of the curriculum, and I will share these as they become available. These changes will require all of us involved in teaching to think creatively about what and how we teach our students. While change can provoke anxiety, I take comfort in knowing firsthand the exceptional teachers we have in this department.

I feel immensely grateful for Dr. Dubovsky's deep commitment to student education. I also appreciate our closeness with the Residency Training program under the strong leadership of Drs. Pristach and Del Regno. Lastly, I would like to recognize and thank Leanne Hatswell for all of the organizing, emailing, and dealing with sometimes frank nonsense, she does all year long. Thank you all for your commitment to our students! Happy Holidays and New Year!

The residency program has been busy preparing for the next calendar year, welcoming our wonderful PGY-1 residents and completing the interview process. The PGY-1s participated in a week-long orientation and have hit the floors running! Thank you to all the faculty and residents who participated in the orientation process to prepare our PGY-1s to succeed.

Residency News

Submitted By:
Cynthia Pristach, MD

Residents participated in the in-house PRITE competition in October, as well as several wellness activities in September, October and December. Members of the Medical Educator Track developed and presented a faculty/resident development activity in November entitled, "*Teaching Professionalism in the Clinical Setting.*" This was an important and informative session for all— Thank you!

Congratulations to Dr. Randy Rogoza, a PGY-2 resident who was selected to present his abstract at the National Update on Behavioral Emergencies (NUBE) from December 9-10, 2021 in Las Vegas, Nevada. The abstract entitled, "*Psychiatric or "Organic?" A Case of Anti-NMDA Receptor Encephalitis*" was developed in conjunction with Dr. Ray Leo. The multidisciplinary conference is sponsored by the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Department of Emergency Medicine.

The Program Improvement Subcommittee is hard at work, looking for ways to improve resident wellness, as well as the didactic curriculum and clinical rotations. Unfortunately, the didactic curriculum continues via Zoom with no end in sight. Looking forward to more scholarly activity in 2022, including poster day in May!

Quotable Quotes

"The brain is a wonderful organ; it starts working the moment you get up in the morning, and does not stop until you get into the office."
-Robert Frost

"A clear conscience is a sure sign of a bad memory."
-Mark Twain



Comic Corner



Candid Camera



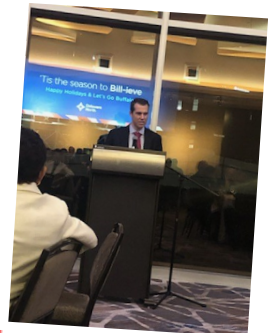
smile



SAY CHEESE!



Smile!



Calling All Writers...

If you would like to contribute to future editions of the quarterly UBMD Psychiatry Newsletter, please contact Julie Mikula at juliemik@buffalo.edu or at (716) 898-3597. All submissions must be received on or before March 18, 2022 to be included in the next edition, published in April 2022. Thanks, in advance, for your input!

