

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

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– Head of Department

WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

The period August 1, 2006 to July 31, 2007 had its challenges and its rewards. The highly motivated staff with a clear vision to build excellence and eschew mediocrity participated fully in decision making and strategic planning for the Department. Despite a heavy service load from the hospital in-patient and out-patient service and the teaching load from increased student intake, the staff all put their shoulders to the wheel with student ratings of teaching being generally above 90%. The thrust to move the



Department to the cutting edge of 21st century medicine has been hampered by the physical structure and lack of space at the hospital. Also its thrust to develop subspecialty training for its postgraduates and diversify the subspecialty service offered needs the strong will of the Faculty and the University. The staff complement in the Department must be increased i.e. more available posts to employ appropriate persons of excellence in fields of medicine not now represented here. The Department is involved in teaching of undergraduate students from the 1st year now and the numbers of students have doubled without an increase in posts available. I commend the staff of the Department for staying the course under these challenging circumstances.

Syllabus guidelines for postgraduates with clear goals and objectives were completed and sent to all staff and postgraduates. The syllabus guidelines for the undergraduate clinical programme were also revised and sent electronically to students and the curriculum office.

Despite challenges faced by the staff, the results of the Medicine and Therapeutics final examinations were very good. In the May/June 2007 MBBS examinations, 97% (93/96 students) were successful with 11

honours and one distinction. The overall best student for Medicine and Therapeutics for all four campus sites in this examination was a Mona student. In the November/December 2006 MBBS examination all eight candidates were successful.

In the postgraduate DM (Internal Medicine) examinations in November/December 2006, the success rate was also satisfactory: all three DM Part I candidates were successful and likewise all four Part II candidates. In May/June 2007, four of the five DM Part I candidates were successful. No Part II candidates from Mona wrote the examination.

There has been a sustained thrust to improve research in the Department. Courses on epidemiology, research and methodology were available for staff and postgraduate students to attend. The Office of Research of the Dean's office was also helpful. The Department, in collaboration with a clinical trials centre overseas, organized a standard of practice workshop to train persons within and outside the faculty on good clinical practice skills in conducting clinical trials.

The Department maintained its contacts with other centres of excellence overseas (Universities of Toronto, Miami, New York, Maryland, Howard, London, Panama). These have been fruitful in terms of collaborative research, student exchanges, and the training of postgraduates in subspecialty areas not now offered by the Department. The aim is to have these persons return to strengthen the Department. Postgraduate student electives at the TMRI have also been useful in stimulating research in postgraduates. The Department made new contacts this year with Harvard University and the University of Vanderbilt re student and academic staff exchanges and collaborative research. Professor Owen Morgan has also renewed contacts with the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh and the University of Dublin. Contacts have also been established with the University of Ibadan, Nigeria.

The Department continued its outreach programmes to the community. Members of staff were involved in the continuing education programmes of the Medical Association of Jamaica, the Association of Consultant Physicians, the Lupus Society of Jamaica and the Kidney Support Foundation of Jamaica. The Department continued its rural service.

Professor Charles Denbow authored a study guide for MBBS students on the Objective Structured Clinical Examination.

Dr. Rosemarie Wright-Pascoe was awarded the Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh.

PAPERS PRESENTED

Professor E. N. Barton

- “Caribbean Renal Registry Data.” University Diabetes Outreach Project 13th International Diabetes Conference, Jamaica, March 2007.
- “End Stage Renal Disease Patients on Haemodialysis: Perceived Severity, Susceptibility to Their Illness and Support Given by Health Personnel.” University Diabetes Outreach Project 13th International Diabetes Conference, Jamaica, March 2007.
- “An Audit of Renal biopsies done in Jamaica, 2006.” Caribbean Association of Nephrologists and Urologists, Jamaica, April 2007.
- “Preliminary Data from the Caribbean Renal Registry.” Association of Nephrologists and Urologists, Jamaica, April 2007.
- “Determining Blood Pressure in Adults with Sickle Cell Disease.” Caribbean Association of Nephrologists and Urologists, Jamaica, April 2007.
- “Acute Renal Failure Post Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting at the University Hospital of the West Indies.” Faculty of Medical Sciences, 15th Annual Research Conference and workshop on Drug Development from Natural Products: Past, Present, Future. Jamaica, November 2006.
- “Cardiac Disease in Dialysis Patients in a Jamaican Hospital: Echocardiographic Findings that Predict Mortality.” Faculty of Medical Sciences, 15th Annual Research Conference and workshop on Drug Development from Natural Products: Past, Present, Future. Jamaica, November 2006.

- “Quality of Life in Dialysis Patients.” Caribbean Association of Nephrologists and Urologists, Jamaica, April 2007.

Dr. T. Clarke

- “An Assessment of the Levels of Adherence and Factors Contributing to Non-Adherence in Patients on HAART Therapy at CHARES.” Faculty of Medical Sciences 15th Annual Research Conference and Workshop on Drug Development from Natural Products: Past, Present, Future. Jamaica, November 2006.

Dr. A. East-Innis

- “Severe Cutaneous Drug Eruptions: the UHWI Experience.” Caribbean Dermatology Association Annual Conference – Barbados, November 2006.
- “Dermatological Challenges in the Black Skin. Advancements in Medicine 2007,” Jamaica, February 2007.
- “The Prevalence of Cutaneous Diseases Among HIV-positive Patients Attending an Outpatient Clinic in Kingston, Jamaica,” November 2006.

Dr. V. Elliott

- “Endocarditis in Kidney Failure.” University Diabetes Outreach Project 13th International Diabetes Conference, Jamaica, March 2007.
- “New Developments in Management of Acute Coronary Syndrome.” Andrews Memorial Hospital/Sanofi & Boehringer, April 2007.
- “Interventional Cardiology: The At-Risk Patient.” Medical Association of Jamaica, June 2007.
- “Role of Niacin in Lipid Control.” Merck; General Conference, Jamaica, November 2006.
- “Cardiac Biomarkers.” Heart Association of Jamaica, September 2006.

- “Echo Assessment of Cardiac Contractility: Cardiac Catheterization, Year in Review 2006 Strain/Strain Rate Imaging and Management of Acute Coronary Syndrome,” November 2006.
- “Management of Acute Coronary Syndrome.” Sanofi Training, February 2007.
- “Cardiac Markers of Ischaemia and CHF, Focus on BNP.” Accident and Emergency, December 2006.
- “Management of Acute Coronary Syndrome.” Sanofi General Presentation, March 2007.
- “Acute Coronary Syndrome, Basics of Coronary Intervention, Basics of ECG.” Training of Nurses for Catheterization Laboratory, February – March 2007.
- “Stress Exercise for Cardiac Assessment,” February 2007.

Dr. D. Gilbert

- “Cardiac Disease in Dialysis Patients in a Jamaican Hospital: Echocardiographic Findings that Predict Mortality.” Faculty of Medical Sciences 15th Annual Research Conference and Workshop on Drug Development from Natural Products: Past Present, Future, Jamaica, November 2006.

Professor M. Lee

- “Viral Hepatitis.” Annual Symposium of the Jamaica Medical Doctors Association, Jamaica, August 2006.
- “Screening for Gastrointestinal Cancer.” Annual Meeting of the Association of Consultant Physicians of Jamaica, Kingston, Jamaica. September 2006.
- “Colon Cancer Screening.” Public Forum of the Jamaica Cancer Society and the Association of Consultant Physicians of Jamaica. Kingston, Jamaica, September 2006.

Dr. R. Smith

- “Acute Renal Failure Post Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting at the University Hospital of the West Indies.” Faculty of Medical Sciences 15th Annual Research Conference and Workshop on

Drug Development from Natural Products: Past Present, Future, Jamaica, November 2006.

Dr. W. Williams

- “An Audit of Renal Biopsies in Jamaica, 2006.” Caribbean Association of Nephrologists and Urologists, Jamaica, April 2007.

Dr. R. Wright-Pascoe

- “Clinical Insight on Stroke Prevention in the Older, Hypertensive and/or Diabetic Patients.” Alliance on Ageing Jamaica, February 2007.
- “Incretins: the New Options.” The Association of Consultant Physicians of Jamaica. Kingston, Jamaica, December 2006.
- “Diabetes: Addressing Your Issues.” Medical Association of Jamaica, November 2006.
- “Cardiovascular Disease, Myocardial Infarction and Avandia in Diabetes Mellitus.” Clarendon Branch, Medical Association of Jamaica, July 2007.

PUBLICATIONS

WIMJ = West Indian Medical Journal

Refereed Journal Articles

- * Ali A. Tropical Spastic Paraparesis and Polymyositis – A Still Unfolding Story. WIMJ, 55 (6) 459-463.
- * Plummer JM, Mitchell DIG, Duncan ND, McDonald AH, Arthurs M. Bile Duct Injuries in the Laparoscopic Era: University Hospital of the West Indies Experience. WIMJ, 2006 (4) 228-231.
- * Williams LAD, Conrad J, Vogler B, Rosner H, Porter RBR, Setzer W, Barton EN, Levy HG, Mikas S, Klaiber I, Nkurunziza A, Kraus W. In Vitro Auto-Proliferation/ Cytotoxic Activity of Epingaione and its Derivatives on the

- Human SH – SY SY Neuroblastoma and TE – 671 Sarcoma Cells. WIMJ, 2007; 56 (1) 5-10.
- * Williams LAD, Rosner H, Levy HG, Barton EN. A Critical Review of the Therapeutic Potential of Dibenzyl Trisulphide Isolated from *Petiveria Alliacea* L (Guinea Hen Weed, Anamu) WIMJ, 2007; 56 (1) 17-21.
 - * Christian N, Smikle MF, DeCeular K, Daniels L, Walravens MJ, Barton EN. Antinuclear Antibodies and HLA Class II Alleles in Jamaican Patients with Systemic Lupus Erythematosus. WIMJ, 2007; 56 (2) 130-133.
 - * Chung A, Iheonunekwu I, Gilbert DT, Barton EN. Cardiac Disease in Dialysis Patients in a Jamaican Hospital: Echocardiographic Findings that Predict Mortality. WIMJ, 2007; 56 (3) 299-302.
 - * Williams M, Clarke T, Williams P, Barton EN. The mean levels of Adherence and Factors Contributing to Non-Adherence in Patients on Highly Active Anti-Retroviral Therapy. WIMJ, 2007; 56 (3) 252-256.
 - * Lee MG. Colon Cancer Screening. WIMJ, 2006; 55; 365-367.
 - * Smith R, Scarlett M, Ramphal P, Irvine R, Barton EN. Acute Renal Failure Post Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting, University Hospital of the West Indies. WIMJ, 2007; 56 (3) 294-298.
 - * Williams E, Williams-Johnson J, McDonald A, Williams W. Asymptomatic Microscopic Haematuria. Postgraduate Doctor Caribbean; 122 (3) 84-87.
 - * Wint YB, Duff EM, McFarlane-Anderson N, O'Connor A, Bailey EY, Wright-Pascoe RA. Knowledge, Motivation and Barriers to Diabetes Control in Adults in Jamaica. WIMJ, 2006; 55 (4) 232-236.
 - * McKenzie CH, Wright-Pascoe R, Boyne MS. Prospective Evaluation and Characteristics of Patients with Suspected Primary Hyperaldosteronism. WIMJ, 2007; 56 (3) 246-251.
 - * Irving RR, Mills JL, Choo-Kang EG, Morrison EY, Wright-Pascoe RA, McLaughlin WA, Mullings AM. Depressive

Symptoms in Children of Women with Newly Diagnosed Type-2 Diabetes. *J Clin Psychiatry* 2007; (9) 21-24.

Abstracts

- * Fetschrift to Professor the Honourable Owen St. C. Morgan, Barton EN. *WIMJ*, 2006; 55 (6) 458.
- * Soyibo AK, Barton EN. Caribbean Renal Registry Data. *WIMJ*, 2007; 56 (3) 303.
- * Campbell K, Asnani M, Cunningham-Myrie C, Cumming V, Barton EN, Reid M. Determinants of Blood Pressure in Adults with Sickle Cell Disease. *WIMJ*, 2007; 53 (3) 3005.
- * Gayle F, Gilbert DT, Barton EN. Neurological Complications in Patients with End Stage Renal Disease on Chronic Dialysis Therapy. *WIMJ*, 2007; 56 (3) 304-305.
- * Gayle F, Soyibo AK, Gilbert DT, Barton EN. Quality of Life and its Correlates in Chronic Dialysis Patients. *WIMJ*, 2007; 56 (3) 304.
- * Chung A, Iheonunekwu N, Gilbert DT, Barton EN. Cardiac Disease in Dialysis Patients in a Jamaican Hospital: Echocardiographic Findings that Predict Mortality. *WIMJ*, 2006; 55 (4) 15.
- * East-Innis A. Human T Cell Lymphotropic Virus Type -1 and Infective Dermatitis. *WIMJ*, 2006; 55 (6) 464.
- * Smith R, Scarlett M, Ramphal P, Irvine R, Soyibo AK, Barton EN. Acute Renal Failure Post Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting, University Hospital of the West Indies. *WIMJ*, 2006; 55 (4) 40.
- * Soyibo AK, Williams W, Smith R, Shah D, Barton EN. Renal Biopsies done in Jamaica in 2006. *WIMJ*, 2007; 56 (3) 303-304.
- * Vigilence J, Reid HL, Wright-Pascoe RA, Choo-Kang E. *Journal of Vascular Research* 2006; 43 (11) 29.

PUBLIC SERVICE

Professor E. Barton

- Member, Resource Person, Kidney Support Foundation of Jamaica
- Member, Voluntary Clinical Renal Service to Public in Manchester, St. Elizabeth and St. Ann
- Consultant, Charitable Foundations providing Healthcare – Diabetes Association of Jamaica
- Treasurer, Caribbean Association of Nephrologists and Urologist

Dr. A. East-Innis

- Member, Anti-bleaching Campaign Team in Association with the Ministry of Health

Professor M. Lee

- Member, Board of Executive, Food For the Poor
- Member, Medical Committee, Food For the Poor
- Treasurer, Association of West Indian Gastroenterologists
- Member, Board of Directors, Cancer Care Hospice, Kingston, Jamaica (2006)

Dr. W. Williams

- Chairman, Committee for Improvement of Chemistry Laboratory, St. Jago High School

Dr. Wright-Pascoe

- Member, Public Education Team on Obesity, Diabetes & Thyroid Disease