

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE



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Head of Department

WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

Facing significant challenges, the Department of Medicine continued its mission of excellence in teaching, engaging in research which is relevant, providing service and outreach during the period August 1, 2013 to July 31, 2014. The Department faced significant challenges with the limited budget allocated which was fully spent in the first 6 months.

TEACHING

Undergraduate

The Department has been able to manage the increased number of Undergraduate students in the MBBS program which continues to be one of the major challenges for the Department. This has especially

impacted the University Hospital of the West Indies (UHWI), the main teaching facility for clinical teaching, which has limited space and facilities with limited patient numbers. In addition, the shortage of resources at the UHWI is causing major challenges for patient care which affects both undergraduate and post-graduate teaching. The full time and Associate staff have managed the problems associated with the increased number of students in all clinical clerkships. The increased Internal Medicine patient load at the UHWI as well as at other institutions have created major problems with resources and inadequate staffing.

Most of the clinical students were assigned to the UHWI, which includes all of the second year IMP students and two thirds of the third year clerkship students. The 3rd year clinical students were divided between the Kingston Public Hospital (KPH) (one-third) and the UHWI (two-thirds). For the 5th year students, in addition to the UHWI, students were assigned to the peripheral teaching Hospitals including; KPH, the Cornwall Regional Hospital, the Mandeville Regional Hospital and the Spanish Town Hospital but problems with inadequate staffing continues to pose a challenge at all sites. Teaching also began at the May Pen Hospital late in 2013. The Associate Lecturers at the peripheral institutions, despite their busy clinical schedule, continue to do an excellent job in teaching the students. The feedback from the students at the peripheral teaching sites remains good.

The teaching strategy for the clinical clerkships has fully transformed from a mixture of large class didactic teaching to predominantly small group interactive teachings with an emphasis on patient and problem oriented learning. In addition to the small group bedside teaching there are scheduled teachings to students at the different sites on a daily basis. The guidelines for the clerkships have been updated and the topics for the daily teachings standardized.

The Introduction to Medical Practice (IMP 2) had a class size of over 300 students. Although there were problems with adequate space and staffing for the small group activities, the clerkship was completed satisfactorily. However, because of technical difficulties with the audio-visual transmission to the Western Jamaica campus the IMP students at

WJC came to Mona which increased the problems with space to adequately accommodate the additional students.

The main May/June (2014) MBBS final examination was conducted successfully and of the 194 students taking the Medicine examination 13 (6.7%) failed with 13 obtaining Honors. This is the highest number of candidates receiving Honors in the Medicine examination. A Mona student obtained the Medicine subject medal, having performed the best in the examination across all four campuses.

The increased number of students doing the clinical examination is creating challenges with the need for an increased time to complete the clinical examination process and the increased personnel needed with an increase in expenditure.

Postgraduate

The postgraduate DM programme in Medicine has been training specialists in Internal Medicine for Jamaica and the Caribbean for over forty years despite a lack of specific funding for the programme. The success of the programme is highly dependent on the commitment of the staff to training these postgraduate students.

Several changes have been made to the programme over the past year. Candidates have to work in Internal Medicine post-internship for 3 - 6 months and an interview process is necessary where possible for entry into the programme. A research project is a requirement in the third elective year. All candidates are required to submit a formal assessment to complete their registration at the start of each semester.

With the increasing number of undergraduate students in the MBBS programme there is an urgent need to increase the number of DM students in the Medicine programme but the UHWI is presently financially constrained to implement this increase. The DM students are paid by the UHWI and the number of posts are inadequate to cover the increased workload. Also, Government sponsored postgraduate students have diminished over the past two years. A major challenge for the DM graduate students is the significant increase in the number of emergency

Department of Medicine

referrals on a daily basis at the UHWI. The number of emergency patients and the lack of resources to manage these patients are major problems that need urgent attention.

There is a great need to train subspecialists and the Department is to start Fellowship subspecialty training as soon as qualified applicants are available in several areas. Nephrology Fellowship training has started and there has been four graduates. Approval has been obtained to start training in Cardiology, Gastroenterology and recently Infectious Disease. Fellowship training in Infectious Disease started in January 2014 with two Fellows. This is in collaboration with the University of South Carolina.

RESEARCH

Expansion of research in the Department remains a priority. All members are encouraged and expected to do research and publish. The research output has been variable but has increased over the past two years.

The research laboratory in the Department has been non-functional and in disrepair for years but has been partially refurbished; however, there is a need for equipment for it to become fully functional.

An assistant lecturer who has an MBBS and a PhD degree has joined the staff to help drive the research agenda of the Department.

Two students have been registered to pursue research Masters degrees (MPhil).

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

The Department of Medicine remains committed to offering continuing medical education. The Department hosted a successful Cardiology week culminating in a Cardiology Symposium in February 2014. The theme was Coronary Artery Disease. There was a visiting lecturer from Yale University. The cardiology week activities also involved a talk by a staff member to employees at a major private corporation and a public wellness clinic and lectures to patients.

The inaugural Lecture by Professor R. Wright-Pascoe was given in February 2014.

The annual summer review in July 2014 was successful with an increased attendance from students, residents, general practitioners, nurses and consultants.

The Department had two distinguished Lectures presented by, Professor Carl Bazil, Professor of Clinical Neurology, Columbia University in September 2013 and Professor K. Srinath Reddy, President of the World Heart Federation in June 2014. There was also a Special Lecture by Dr. S. Weissman in January 2014, University of South Carolina

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

The Department has been in collaboration with the University of Toronto for Fellowship training in Cardiology. Several post-DM Fellows have been trained.

There is an agreement for collaboration with the University of South Carolina for Fellowship training in Infectious Disease. This started in January 2014 with two post-DM graduate students.

There has been collaboration with the Neurology Department of the University of Miami for teaching of students, residents and physicians in stroke management. Two symposiums have been done.

The Department in collaboration with the HIV Center, Columbia University organized a meeting of stake holders for taking stock and looking ahead for research for GMT and HIV/AIDS in Jamaica.

OUTREACH

The Department was active in several outreach projects. The Nephrology staff has established renal clinics at the Mandeville Regional and St Ann's Bay Hospitals. The Department was instrumental in establishing the renal dialysis unit at the Mandeville Regional Hospital and staff members continue to service the clinic and dialysis unit.

Department of Medicine

Monthly consultation service and gastrointestinal procedures are performed at the Princess Margaret Hospital, St. Thomas by a staff Gastroenterologist. The Department has started a Gastrointestinal Service at the Spanish Town Hospital and has trained nurses for the unit. Gastroenterologists from the Department continue weekly consultations and procedure lists at Spanish Town Hospital.

A staff Cardiologist from the Department has a monthly Cardiology clinic at the St. Ann's Bay Hospital.

The staff at CHARES participates in several outreach projects including testing, and counselling at different events and monitor individuals with HIV infection in homeless people in Kingston.

Several members of staff are resource personnel on government and non-governmental organizations concerned with public health and charity. Other members of staff sit on various boards.

VISITORS TO THE DEPARTMENT

Professor Carl Bazil, Professor of Clinical Neurology, Columbia University. Presented a distinguished lecture on Epilepsy and Sleep.

Professor Craig M. Wilson, Professor of Epidemiology, Pediatrics and Microbiology, Chair, Adolescent Medicine Network for HIV/AIDS Intervention, University of Alabama at Birmingham. Discussed collaborative work in HIV/AIDS and exchange of graduate students

Dr. Sharon Weissman, Programme Director Infectious Disease, University of South Carolina, **Professor Helmut Albrecht**, Head Infectious Disease, University of South Carolina. Discussed collaboration in the Fellowship Programme in Infectious Disease which started at Mona in January 2014. Presented at joint Infectious Disease Journal club and at a Special Lecture.

Professor Theo Sandfort, Programme Director HIV Center and Professor of Clinical Sociomedical Sciences, Columbia University, NY. Organized meeting of stake holders for taking stock and looking ahead for research for GMT and HIV/AIDS.

Dr. Abeel Mangi, Surgical Director, Center for Advanced Heart Failure, Yale New Haven Hospital, Conn. Associate Professor of Surgery, Yale University. Gave lecture at cardiology symposium and discussed collaboration with the cardiology unit in the Department of Medicine

Professor B. R. Simon Rosser, Director HIV/STI Intervention and Prevention studies, Division of Epidemiology and Community Health. School of Public Health, University of Minnesota

Professor Rosser and his team visited the Department to discuss collaborative studies in HIV infection.

Professor K. Srinath Reddy, President of the World Health Federation delivered the Eric Cruickshank distinguished lecture.

SCIENTIFIC PAPERS PRESENTED

L Hurlock

- The management of Acute Coronary Syndrome. 22st Annual Research Conference Faculty of Medical Sciences Research Day, November 2013. Our women are small and old. implications for the use of Prasugrel in The Caribbean American Heart Association – Caribbean Cardiac Society Meeting – Dallas, Texas, November 2013.

MG Lee

- Helicobacter pylori in Jamaica. Biennial UWI and Mayo clinic pathology conference, April 2014

N Clare-Pascoe, MG Lee, T Murphy, T Ferguson, AM Nicholson

- Clostridium difficile-associated diarrhoea (CDAD) at the University Hospital of the West Indies over a six-year period. Ministry of Health, 4th National Health Research Conference.

K Maloney

- Soyibo AK, DeCeulaer K, Miller RK, Smith R, **Maloney K**, Barton EN. Establishing the Jamaica Lupus registry: report of patients with systemic lupus erythematosus attending a major referral hospital in Jamaica. Annual Lupus Symposium November 10, 2013.

A Soyibo

- Caribbean Renal Registry- Annual Data Report. 6th Annual Conference of Nephrology and Hypertension. Overview of kidney disease in the Caribbean, “Jamaica as a case point”. Combined Nephrology conference, University of Michigan May 2014.
- CME Meeting. The WHO Updates for Managing Type 2 Diabetes, “Rational and Evidence”. April 2014.
- Northern Clinical meeting: Generic Substitution in Nephrology. November 2013.
- Clinical meeting: Implication of drug substitution in Kidney Disease. October 2013.

Professor R Wright-Pascoe

- “Managing Chronic Diseases During Sports” – The University Diabetes Outreach Program (UDOP) 20th Annual International Diabetes Conference March 2014.
- “Hypothyroidism: Its Impacts, Implications and Management”. The Pharmaceutical Society of Jamaica’s 29th Annual Pharmaceutical Retreat June 2014.
- “Management of Persistent Hypoglycemia in Type 2 Diabetes Continued Medical Education Forum April 2014.
- “Diabetes Mellitus Therapy”. Caribbean College of Family Physicians Endocrine Disorders Workshop January, 2014.
- “New Frontiers in the Management of Diabetes” at the Pharmaceutical Society of Jamaica’s Symposium March, 2014.
- “Disorders of the Pituitary Gland” on three current workshops on October 27, 2013 at the Caribbean Endocrine Society (CARES) Endocrine Workshop
- “The Non Communicable Diseases; the Jamaican Experience” 3rd Annual International Public Health Conference October, 2013.
- Effects of Tobacco on Diabetes Mellitus, Workshop for Capacity

Building on World Diabetes Day November 2013, PAHO Headquarters.

PAPERS PRESENTED

Refereed Journal Articles

- **T K McGhie, K DeCeulaer, CA Walters, A Soyibo, M G Lee.** Vitamin D levels in Jamaican patients with systemic lupus erythematosus Lupus. Published online 18 March 2014. DOI: 10.1177/0961203314528556
- **Penn KA, Whittle DO, Lee MG.** Inflammatory bowel disease in Jamaica. *Annals of Gastroenterology* 2013; 26: 1–4.
- **N. Forbes, M. Walwyn, G Rao, D Ellis, MG Lee.** Klippel-Trenaunay Syndrome. *West Indian Med J* 2013; 62 (3): 254–256
- **Orimoloye A, Hurlock L, Ferguson TS, Lee MG.** Pattern of Energy Drink Consumption and Associated Adverse Symptoms among University Students. *British Journal of Medicine & Medical Research* 2013; 3(4):1900-1909
- **YGR White,** Tuberculosis in HIV: Making Good with What We Have. *West Indian Med J* 2013; 62 (2): 107
- **D Stennett, Y White,** Department of Medicine and Microbiology, Possible Economic Gains from Cancer Research. *West Indian Med J* 2013; 62(3): 169–170.
- **TS Ferguson, MK Tulloch-Reid, NOM Younger, RA Wright-Pascoe, MS Boyne, SR McFarlane, DK Francis, RJ Wilks.** Diabetic Foot Complications among Patients Attending a Specialist Diabetes Clinic in Jamaica: Prevalence and Associated Factors. *West Indian Med J* 2013; 62 (3): 216-223 DOI: 10.7727/wimj.2012.031
- **G Barrow, N Clare-Pascoe, A Bahadur, U Atkinson, C Browne, TN Clarke, EN Barton.** A Review of the HIV-infected Homeless Sub-population at the Centre for HIV/AIDS Research, Education and Services, Department of Medicine, University Hospital of the West Indies. *West Indian Med J* 2013; 62 (4): 337–340.

- G Clifford, GM Craig, C McCourt, **G Barrow**. What are the Benefits and Barriers of Communicating Parental HIV Status to Seronegative Children and the Implications for Jamaica? A narrative Review of the Literature in Low/Middle Income Countries. *West Indian Med J* 2013; 62 (4): 357–363
- R Mah-Lee, **G Barrow**. A case of Systemic Cryptococcal Disease in HIV Infection. *West Indian Med J* 2013; 62 (4): 374–376
- **EN Barton**. Personality Disorders. *West Indian Med J* 2013; 62 (5): 381–382
- J Martin, G Walcott, **TR Clarke**, **EN Barton**, FW Hickling. The Prevalence of Personality Disorder in a General Medical Hospital Population in Jamaica. *West Indian Med J* 2013; 62 (5): 463–467
- **EN Barton**. HIV/AIDS. *West Indian Med J* 2013; 62 (5): 281–282
- **Sargeant T, Harris T, Wilks R, Barned S, Galloway-Blake K, and Ferguson T**. Rhabdomyolysis and Dengue Fever: A Case Report and Literature Review Case Reports in Medicine Volume 2013, Article ID 101058, 4 pages. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1155/2013/101058>
- **Maloney K**. Idiopathic intracranial hypertension as an initial presentation of systemic lupus erythematosus: a case report and review of the literature. *BMJ case reports* 2013 Aug13;pii: bcr2013010223. doi: 10.1136/bcr-2013-010223.
- Barrow CR, **Clare-Pascoe N**, Bahadur A, Atkinson N, Browie C, **Clarke TR, Barton EN**. A review of the HIV infected homeless sub population at the Centre for HIV-AIDS Research and Services, University Hospital of the West Indies. *West Indian Med J* 2013, 62:337-340
- Hickling FW, Martin J, Walcott G, Paisly V, Hutchinson N, **Clarke TR, Barton EN**. The creation and valuation of the Jamaican Personality Disorder inventory. *West Indian Med J* 2013; 62: 389-396.
- Ezinne CC, Yoshimitsu M, **White Y**, Arima N (2014) HTLV-1 Specific CD8+ T Cell Function Augmented by Blockade of 2B4/CD48 Interaction in HTLV-1 Infection. *PLoS ONE* 2014;9(2): e87631.

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0087631

- **Francis-Emmanuel PM**, D S. Thompson, A T. Barnett, C Osmond, CD. Byrne, MA. Hanson, P D. Gluckman, T E. Forrester, and M S. Boyne. Glucose Metabolism in Adult Survivors of Severe Acute Malnutrition *J Clin Endocrinol Metab* 2014;99: 2233–2240
- **KK. Hoe, AK Soyibo, K. James, EN Barton.** Prevalence of sexual dysfunction among the patients with end-stage renal disease in Jamaica. *West Indian Med J* 2013 Dec; 62(9):234–239
- **Barrow G, Barrow C.** HIV Treatment as Prevention in Jamaica and Barbados: Magic Bullet or Sustainable Response? *Journal of the International Association of Providers of AIDS Care* 2013 Dec 30. [Epub ahead of print]
- Nwokocha CR, Spence J, **Barton EN.** Cadmium, nicotine and cigarettes: any hypertension paradox? *West Indian Med J* 2013; 62:487-8.

Abstracts in Peer Reviewed Journal

- TS Ferguson, MK Tulloch-Reid, NO Younger-Coleman, **RA Wright-Pascoe**, MS Boyne, **AK Soyibo**, RJ Wilks, Chronic Kidney Disease among patients attending a specialist diabetes clinic in Jamaica. *West Indian Med J* 2013; 62(Suppl.6): 27
- **SN Chin**, C Green, G Gordon-Strachan, G Wharfe, An audit of haematology/oncology clinics services at an urban academic hospital in Jamaica. *West Indian Med J* 2013; 62 (Suppl. 6): 54
- **N Clare-Pascoe, MG Lee, T Murphy, T Ferguson, AM Nicholson,** Clostridium difficile-associated diarrhoea (CDAD) at the University Hospital of the West Indies over a six-year period. *West Indian Med J* 2013; 62 (Suppl. 6): 59
- **V. Elliott, A. Chung, M. Hoo Sang, A. Irvine, J. Smith-Cole, T. Spence,** Coronary angiogram and angioplasty at the University Hospital of the West Indies, *West Indian Med J* 2013; 62 (Suppl. 6): 24

- S. Wright, C. Gordon, M. Lee. The Stages of Exercise behaviour change of patient with chronic disease. *West Indian Med J* 2013; 62 (Suppl. 6): 46
- **Yohann White, Geoffrey Barrow, Tanya Clarke, Adedamola Soyibo, Andre McGregor,** Dewayne Stennett, Gilian Wharfe, Dwight Lowe, Michelle Hamilton, Monica Smikle, Naomichi Arima, Everard Barton. Profound Immune Exhaustion and Downregulation Of Interleukin-7 Alpha Receptor (CD127) In CD8 and CD4 T-Cell Subsets In Jamaican Patients Co-Infected With Human T- Cell Lymphotropic Virus Type-1 and Human Immunodeficiency Virus Type-1 Despite Normal Or Above Normal CD4 Counts; *Blood* 2013; 122(21):3498.
- TS Ferguson, MK Tulloch-Reid, NO Younger-Coleman, **RA Wright-Pascoe,** MS Boyne, AK Soyibo, RJ Wills. Chronic kidney disease among patients attending a specialist diabetes clinic in Jamaica. *West Indian Med J* 2013; 62 (Suppl 6) 27.
- **R Wright-Pascoe.** Managing Chronic Non-Communicable Disease during Sports. *West Indian Medical J* 2014; 63 (Suppl 1) 35.
- **R Wright-Pascoe.** Chairman’s Message to the University of the West Indies Faculty of Medical Sciences 22ND Annual Research Conference and Workshop on “Affairs of the Heart”. *West Indian Med J* 2014; 62(suppl.6) 2.

PUBLIC SERVICE & OUTREACH

Professor Michael Lee

- Member, Board of Executive, Food For the Poor
- Chair, Medical Committee, Food For the Poor
- Member, Medical Review Panel Ministry of Health. Jamaica
- Member, Board of the Heart Foundation of Jamaica
- Member, Health and Wellness Tourism Steering Committee, JAMPRO

Dr. Dwight Whittle

- Volunteer, Gastroenterology Clinic and procedures, Princess Margaret Hospital, Morant Bay, St. Thomas.

Professor Everard Barton

- Renal clinic outreach Mandeville Regional Hospital and St. Ann's Bay Hospital.
- Outreach services to develop renal care services in Tobago and public education on prevention of causative diseases.
- Working with CHEF (Caribbean Health and Education Foundation) to do a Caribbean wide screening for Kidney disease in the English speaking Islands/countries.
- Arranged with Global links for visiting teams of Healthcare professionals to work with local teams in surgery and medicine in Kingston, Manchester and St. Ann.
- Obtaining from Global links (USA) dialysis material: fluid, chemicals, machines which were distributed among University of the West Indies, St. Joseph Hospital and Mandeville Regional Hospital.

Dr. A. K. Soyibo

- Outreach to Rural areas: Preventing Life style related disease.
- Education and Policy for Renal Unit in Tobago.
- Renal clinic in two major government hospitals: Mandeville Regional Hospital and St. Ann's Bay Hospital.
- Development of an Operational Policy manual and Haemodialysis Orientation Manual for University Hospital of the West Indies and satellite Units.
- Development of an Operational Policy manual and Haemodialysis Orientation Manual for Tobago Regional Health Authority.

Dr. Lisa Hurlock

- Cardiologic evaluation Physician for swimmers for Jamaica

Department of Medicine

Professor R. Wright-Pascoe

- Chairman of the Jamaica National Committee on Non-Communicable Diseases, Ministry of Health
- Member of Council of the Medical Association of Jamaica
- President of the Association of Consultant Physicians of Jamaica
- Chairman of the Board of Management of Central Medical Laboratories.
- Member of the Medical Tribunal Unit of the Medical Council of Jamaica.
- Member of the Ministry of Health Core Technical working Group for the protocol of the Diabetes Manual to review guidelines for the management of Diabetes Mellitus in Jamaica

Dr. C. Collie

- Chairman, Board of Directors, Pre-University School, Taylor Hall, UWI, Mona
- Chairman, Board of Directors, Ayrton Distributors Limited

Dr. M. Lawrence-Wright

- Treasurer – Caribbean Cardiac Society
- Bustamante Hospital for Children Development Committee, Member

Dr. G. Barrow

- Consultancy for UNICEF
- Consultant services for the Elimination of mother to child transmission of HIV and Syphilis.
- Ministry of Health, providing technical support to the National HIV/STI Programme as the Director for the Treatment Care and Support (TCS) component
- Representative to the Country Coordinating Mechanism for the Global Fund Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria to Jamaica.

- Member of the Monitoring and Evaluation Reference Group, National HIV/STI Programme.
- Member of the Academic Sub-Committee of the National AIDS Committee.
- Member of the Civil Society Forum of Jamaica.
- Member of the “Most At Risk Population” Technical Working Group, National HIV/STI Programme.

Dr. T. Clarke

- Medical Director for the Racers (Usain Bolt’s) Running Club
- Member of the Medical Committee for the JAAA

Dr A. Ali

- Chair, Caribbean taskforce of the North American Regional Commission on Epilepsy
- Chair of Taskforce for the biennial North American Regional Caribbean Congress on Epilepsy
- Member, International Affairs Commission of the American Epilepsy Society (AES).
- American Academy of Neurology Ambassador to the Caribbean region
- Regional epilepsy and neurology clinics and educational discussions in Tobago, St Lucia and Antigua

Dr. K. Maloney

- Vice president Lupus Foundation of Jamaica

Dr. F. Gayle

- Jamaica National Health Fund Medical Expert Panel