• Members of the faculty of the Institute have combined to author 1,429 publications since 1998. **118** original articles, commentaries, editorials, and book chapters have been published or have been accepted for publication during the 2017 - 2018 period. Faculty published articles in top-tier journals including JAMA and Lancet.

• Dr. Jerry Gurwitz continues to serve as PI of the Health Care Systems Research Network (HCSRN)-Older American Independence Centers (OAICs) AGING Initiative. This Initiative, which recently completed 4 years of funding from the National Institute on Aging, brings together the 18 research centers of the HCSRN with the university-based OAICs with the goal of advancing the science of multiple chronic conditions. The AGING Initiative has received an outstanding score (10) on a grant application to continue its work for another 5 years. The new five-year grant will focus on research methods and approaches, career development activities for early stage investigators, enhancement of patient/family caregiver engagement, and will include a new pilot grant program.

• Dr. Susan Andrade continues to lead Meyers Primary Care Institute efforts relevant to FDA’s Sentinel Initiative, which is exploring a variety of approaches for improving the Agency’s ability to rapidly identify and assess medication and device safety issues. Dr. Andrade continues to lead multiple multi-site research efforts to identify challenges to drug safety during pregnancy. Dr. Andrade is developing cutting edge approaches to linking information on mothers and infants and to validate healthcare data on stillbirths.

• Together with Dr. Robin Clark, Dr. Andrade is leading the participation of the Meyers Primary Care Institute in the “Integrating Addiction Research in Health Systems Network,” an endeavor of the Health Care Systems Research Network. In related work, Drs. Andrade and Clark are also leading efforts at MPCI related to a multi-center, multi-year, FDA-funded effort to better understand the epidemiology and risk factors for misuse, abuse, and addiction associated with long-term use of opioids for chronic pain. These research efforts are being conducted in partnership with Fallon Health.

• Dr. Sonal Singh received funding through the FDA Mini-Sentinel Project for Death Data Exploration. The primary goal of the project is to determine under which circumstances, if any, could death and cause of death information in the Sentinel Distributed Database can be used for safety assessment.

• Dr. Mara Epstein is leading a new study as part of FDA’s Sentinel Initiative which is seeking to validate Hodgkin’s and Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma diagnoses.

• Dr. Epstein is continuing her work examining monoclonal gammopathy of unknown significance (MGUS), a precursor to multiple myeloma, under a 3-year Clinical
Research Scholar (KL2) Award through the University of Massachusetts Center for Clinical and Translational Science.

- The Meyers Primary Care Institute and Reliant Medical Group are participating in the All of Us research program, a historic effort to gather data from over one million people across the United States. Drs. Mara Epstein and Larry Garber are leading this effort, which will seek to recruit over 11,000 participants at Reliant during the next five years. The ultimate goal of this research, which includes a major focus on precision medicine, is to accelerate research and improve health at a population level. Researchers will use data from the program to learn more about how individual differences in lifestyle, environment, and biological makeup can influence health and disease. Recruitment activities at Reliant Medical Group will commence in September, 2018.

- The Meyers Primary Care Institute and Reliant Medical Group are participating in a $30 million study entitled “A Randomized Trial of an Individually-Tailored, Multi-factorial Fall Injury Prevention Strategy: The STRIDE Study” funded by PCORI and the National Institute on Aging. Dr. Gurwitz serves on the Steering Committee of the overall study and as the Chair of the Clinical Trial Sites Committee. Dr. Larry Garber, Peggy Preusse, and Anne McDonald are leading up these efforts at our trial site which exceeded its enrollment target of 600 subjects.

- The Meyers Primary Care Institute and Reliant Medical Group are participating in a study funded by the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute entitled “Improving Patient-Centered Communication in Primary Care: A Cluster Randomized Controlled Trial of the Comparative Effectiveness of Three Interventions”. This is a multi-site study being conducted with collaborators at the Palo Alto Medical Foundation Research Institute and the University of California San Diego. Dr. Mazor is leading MPCI involvement, with collaborators Drs. Yood and Garber from Reliant Medical Group, and Drs. Singh and Fisher participating from MPCI. The study is a head-to-head comparison of three interventions intended to improve provider-patient communication about what matters most to patients. A stakeholder advisory panel comprised of Reliant Medical Group leaders, patients and staff is providing advice on all aspects of the study. Thirty providers from Reliant Medical Group have been recruited, and data collection is planned to begin in the Fall of 2018.

- Dr. Alok Kapoor is currently leading a study entitled “Supporting Use of Anticoagulation through Prescriber Profiling of Oral Anticoagulant Therapy for Atrial Fibrillation” funded by a grant from Bristol-Myers Squibb. The study is educating primary care providers and cardiologists on the risks and benefits of prescribing anticoagulants to patients with atrial fibrillation using the electronic health record and academic detailing.

- Dr. Kapoor is completing a study funded under a Pfizer Grant for Independent Learning and Change entitled “Anticoagulation Medical Home for High Risk
Patients.” The first paper from this study is currently under review at *British Medical Journal Quality & Safety*.

- **Dr. Kim Fisher** recently received the inaugural Prize for Academic Collaboration Excellence. In collaboration with Dr. Susanne Muehlschlegel, and colleagues at Meyers Primary Care Institute, Dr. Fisher is seeking to identify effective strategies for improving care transitions from hospital to home. Using a positive deviance approach, Dr. Fisher and her team will study high-performing hospitals in order to identify practical and sustainable approaches that make sense in the real world.

- Dr. Kim Fisher was awarded funding through the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center to study the impact of offering patients full access to their electronic medical records. Currently over 22 million patients have access to their electronic medical record, making it critical to understand the impact of accessibility. Dr. Fisher and her team will use a combination of surveys and interviews of patients with COPD to investigate how patients understand providers’ notes, and whether access to notes affect patients’ health-related behaviors.

- Dr. Kim Fisher is continuing work under her KO8 Career Award, funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. She is currently interviewing physicians to understand their perspectives of patient-perceived breakdowns in care, including facilitators and barriers to responding to patient concerns, in order to design an intervention that will help physicians respond effectively to patient-perceived breakdowns in care.

- Dr. Ning Zhang received a faculty scholar award from the Centers for Family Research, University of Massachusetts, Amherst for her research project entitled “Home-based versus Nursing Home-based Post-Acute Care after a Fall among Older Adults.”

- Dr. Bo Zhang, who recently joined the Meyers Primary Care Institute as an affiliated faculty member, collaborated with Dr. Ning Zhang (no relation) on a successful proposal to the Life Science Moment Fund at the University of Massachusetts Medical School Clinical and Translational Science Institute. Their project will establish the UMass Health Policy Research Laboratory and conduct proof of concept testing.

- Dr. Mayra Tisminetzky recently submitted an R01 application to the NIA for funding to continue the line of research she began under the HCSRN-OAICs AGING initiative with pilot funding. Her proposal is entitled “Multimorbidity and Treatment Related Outcomes in Older Heart Failure Patients.”

- The Meyers Primary Care Network continues to be actively involved in the Cancer Research Network (CRN). Dr. Mazor serves on the Executive Committee, and Dr. Mara Epstein is the Site PI. Dr. Epstein is a co-investigator on multiple CRN-based
“rapid analytics projects” which are seeking to demonstrate the capacity of CRN sites to function as learning health care systems.

- Dr. Robert Goldberg is examining ways to use natural language processing to streamline traditional chart review-based collection of socio-demographic, clinical, treatment, and hospital and post-discharge outcomes data in patients hospitalized with acute myocardial infarction through his NHLBI-funded R01, “Community Surveillance of Coronary Heart Disease.” Drs. Gurwitz and Tisminetzky have collaborated on this groundbreaking, decades-long study.

- Dr. Sarah Cutrona was awarded two VA grants. The first, “Innovators Network-Population Factors, Organizational capacity, Workflow and Resources (IN-POWR)” is to conduct an evaluation of VA Center for Innovation program, the Innovators Network; the second grant is to conduct a National Evaluation of the VHA’s Diffusion of Excellence Initiative: Spreading Healthcare Access, Activities, Research & Knowledge.

- Dr. David McManus co-leads, with Dr. Jane Saczynski, a landmark study funded by the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute entitled Systematic Assessment of Geriatric Elements in Atrial Fibrillation (SAGE-AF). Dr. Gurwitz is a collaborator on this important research effort.

- Research teams at the Meyers Primary Care Institute continue to pursue the following AHRQ-funded studies:
  - “Post-Hospital Discharge Adverse Events in the Nursing Home Setting” is a study involving 30 nursing homes across all six New England states to better understand the contemporary epidemiology of adverse events in the long-term care setting.
  - “Improving Safety after Hospitalization in Older Persons on High-Risk Medications” is a randomized trial being conducted in association with Reliant Medical Group to reduce the risks of important medication-related adverse events in older adults recently discharged from the hospital.
  - “Detecting, Addressing, and Learning from Patient-Perceived Breakdowns in Care” is a demonstration project being conducted in association with MedStar Health, the largest healthcare provider in Maryland and the Washington, DC region.
The Health Policy and the Practice of Medicine Interstitial was held on December 18, 2017. Keynote lectures were delivered by Stuart Altman, PhD, Sol C. Chaikin Professor of National Health Policy, Brandeis University and Ellen Zane, MA, CEO Emeritus and Vice Chair of the Board of Directors of Tufts Medical Center. Dr. Altman’s presentation was entitled “What is happening in Massachusetts?” Ellen Zane’s presentation was entitled “The Future of Health Care.” Students participated in case-based small group discussion sessions involving 23 faculty facilitators, including 6 MPCI Board Members. Dr. Robert Baldor has overseen this important educational initiative for over two decades.

Geriatric Teaching Days were held April 4-5, 2018. This year’s Visiting Professor was Michael Malone, MD, Medical Director of Aurora Health Care. Dr. Malone spoke to medical and nursing students at a student and faculty dinner on April 4. The subject was “Want to Champion Better Care for Older Americans? Start Here ...” He presented Grand Rounds at both Saint Vincent Hospital and UMMS on April 5, 2018. His Grand Rounds presentation was entitled “Innovative Practice Models to Improve Care for Vulnerable Older Adults.”

The 9th Annual Geriatric Interprofessional Immersion Training Program (GIIT) (formerly Chief Resident Immersion Training) took place April 27-29, 2018. Twelve rising chief residents and four nurse practitioner students participated; specialties represented included Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Neurology, Palliative Care, Geriatrics, Psychiatry, and Surgery. This year’s GIIT weekend was generously sponsored by Fallon Health and the University of Massachusetts Medical School. The innovative GIIT program is designed to instill the principles of care for complex older patients and to foster collaboration across the specialties of medicine and surgery in the care of geriatric patients.

Many MPCI faculty members serve in leadership, mentor, and teaching roles, including:

- Dr. Mazor serves on dissertation committees for PhD candidates Eric Ding and Meera Sreedhara.
- Dr. Epstein served as Comprehensive Project Reviewer for Deborah Mack, a current PhD candidate in the Clinical and Population Health Research program, Department of Quantitative Health Sciences.
- Dr. Epstein is a dissertation defense committee member for Nathaniel Erskine, MD/PhD program, Department of Quantitative Health Sciences.
- Drs. Epstein and Gurwitz served as a qualifying exam committee members for Richeek Pradhan, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.
- Dr. Epstein will be course director of the Epi-Bio block of Determinants of Health at the School of Medicine for first-year medical students, GSN students, and HSPP students in the GSBS to begin in the 2018-19 academic
year. During 2017-2018 she served as course co-director, lecturer, and small group leader for this block.

✓ Dr. Epstein was the course co-director and lecturer to 12 PhD students for CTS726: Design and Conduct of Studies of Chronic Disease.

✓ Dr. Goldberg served as the primary instructor for the year-long course in Scientific and Grant Writing for CPHR students and the semester long Applied Epidemiology course for MPH students.

✓ Dr. Clark was the course director/instructor of CTS 725, Introduction to the US Health Care System: How Policies and Practice Affect Health, Clinical and Population Health Research Doctoral Program, Fall 2017.

✓ Dr. Clark serves as the Chair of the Thesis Research Advisory Committee for Hassan Fouayzi, a doctoral student in Clinical and Population Health Research, 2017-present.

✓ Dr. Tisminetzky is an instructor in the Epidemiology and Biostatics course for the Medical School and Graduate School of Nursing.

✓ Dr. Ning Zhang taught seminars at the School of Nursing at UMass Amherst, the Department of Economics, Lehigh School, and the Department of Health Policy and Management, UNC School of Public Policy.

✓ Dr. McGee is a Learning Community mentor for 2nd, 3rd, and 4th year medical students.
Catarina Kiefe, PhD, MD has agreed to extend her term as Chair and President of the MPCI Board of Directors through September 2018.

Mary Lee, MD, Linda Weinreb, MD, Thomas Ebert, MD, and Liz Olivera-Mustard, MBA departed as MPCI Directors.

Michele Pugnaire, MD, Daniel Lasser, MD, MPH, Carolyn Langer, MD, and Njeri Gichohi, JD were appointed as new MPCI Directors.
Dr. Alok Kapoor was promoted to Associate Professor of Medicine

Dr. Jerry Gurwitz was selected as the Inaugural Senior Visiting Fellow of the Institute for Clinical and Economic Review, the leading independent organization focused on drug pricing in the United States. The Fellowship will begin in November 2018.

Dr. Jerry Gurwitz has continued to serve on the Health Care Systems Research Network Governing Board and on the Board of Managers of the Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute/Department of Population Medicine at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Mazor will be appointed to the Governing Board of the Health Care Systems Research Network beginning in July 2018, as the representative of the Meyers Primary Care Institute.

Dr. Jerry Gurwitz served as a workgroup Co-Chair for the NIH-sponsored conference Inclusion Across the Lifespan.

Dr. Jerry Gurwitz presented at and co-led a National Institute on Aging Workshop: Opportunities for Trials on Effects of Statins in Primary Prevention in Older Adults. He and Dr. Sonal Singh are leading the development of a manuscript summarizing Workshop conclusions and recommendations relating to a primary prevention trial of statins in older adults.

Dr. Kathy Mazor has continued to Chair Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute review panels on Communication and Dissemination.

Dr. Jerry Gurwitz served as a Reviewer for the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) Pragmatic Clinical Studies review panel, and on a National Institute on Aging R21/R33 review panel.

Dr. Kathy Mazor continues to serve as a Member of the Senior Advisory Committee, Collaborative for Communication and Resolution, and as Chair of the Best Practices & Standards Subcommittee for PCORI.

Dr. Kathy Mazor was an invited speaker and workgroup participant for the Greenwall Foundation-funded meeting –“Accelerating the Development of Late Career Practitioner Policies at US Healthcare Institutions”.

Dr. Clark was an invited participant at the meeting “Examining Issues Pertaining to Untreated Behavioral Health Conditions in Adults.” This meeting of experts was convened by the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine and the Government Accountability Office.
• Dr. Clark was named Interim Director of Research of the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health.

• Dr. Larry Garber was named 2017 Reliant Medical Group Innovator of the Year.

• Dr. Garber continues to play a variety of leadership roles both locally and nationally, serving on the DirectTrust.org Board (where he is also a Strategic Planning Workgroup member), and the Massachusetts eHealth Collaborative (MAeHC) Board for which he serves as Chair of the Executive Committee. He is also acting as a subject matter expert in the FHIR Davinci Project which is defining future healthcare data interoperability standards.

• Dr. Jennifer Donovan received the Faculty Scholarship Award in Integration and Engagement, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences University.

• Dr. Sonal Singh became a member of the Editorial Board of the journal Evidence Based Medicine, a BMJ journal.

• Dr. Mara Epstein served as a member of the Women’s Faculty Committee, and served as Chair for the Women’s History Month Event.

• Dr. Sarah Cutrona completed the Training Institute on Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health (TIDIRH).

• Dr. Cutrona has continued to serve as Co-Director, Medication Optimization Program, and on the Executive Advisory Group for the Center for Healthcare Organization & Implementation Research at the Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial VA Hospital.

• Dr. Gurwitz was appointed as a member of the Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee for UnitedHealthcare.

• Dr. Gurwitz served as Chair of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) Planning Committee on Preventing Adverse Events in Nursing Homes under the Civil Money Penalty Reinvestment Program of CMS.

• Dr. Gurwitz was appointed to the Search Committee for a new Chair of the Department of Family and Community Medicine.

• Dr. Gurwitz was a keynote speaker at the 2018 Houston Medication Safety Symposium sponsored by the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston and the University of Houston College of Pharmacy.

• Dr. Gurwitz continued to serve as a member of the Worcester Board of Health.
• UMMS student Thomas Gomes was a recipient of MSTAR (Medical Student Training in Aging Research) Award in 2017. He presented his research relating to the screening for falls in older adults at the 2018 Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Geriatrics Society.

• Dr. Mazor has mentored nine K awardees this year:
  ✓ Mara Epstein
  ✓ Kimberly Fisher
  ✓ Susanne Muehlschlegel
  ✓ Mayuko Itofukunaga
  ✓ Rajani Sadasivam
  ✓ Sarah Goff
  ✓ Tara Lagu
  ✓ Quinn Pack
  ✓ William Soares

• Dr. Epstein serves as primary mentor to Maira Castaneda-Avila, PhD candidate, Department of Quantitative Health Sciences.

• Dr. Kapoor served as a mentor to Amna Diwan as part of the Junior Faculty Development Program.

• Dr. Mazor served as mentor Idanis Berrios-Morales, MD through the Junior Faculty Development Program, and continues to mentor her on her research efforts.
1998


1999


2001


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2002


2003


2004


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2005


2006


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2007


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2008


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2009


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2010


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2011


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2012


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2014


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2015


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hospital management of patients discharged from the hospital after a first acute myocardial infarction. Am J Cardiol. 2015; pii: S0002-9149(15)01041-3.


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2016


2017


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1424. McInnes DK, **Cutrona SL.** Homeless Veterans and Use of Information Technology [Book Chapter, Editor Jack Tsai] (in press).


Selected Presentations by MPCI Faculty

International


- **Mazor KM.** Symposium Lead/Organizer: Sharing Decision Making: Context is Everything. October 2018 International Conference on Communication in Healthcare, Baltimore MD.

National

- **Epstein MM, Saphirak C, Zhou Y, Birmann BM, Leblanc C, Rosmarin AG, Gurwitz JH.** Detecting Cases of Monoclonal Gammopathy of Undetermined Significance in Electronic Health Data, American Society of Hematology Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA. December 2017


- **Fisher KA, Smith KM, Gallagher TH, Mazor KM.** We Want to Know: Patient Comfort Speaking Up About Breakdowns in Care and Patient Experience. Oral Presentation, Health Care Systems Research Network (HCSRN) 2018; April 2018; Minneapolis, MN.


- **Garber L.** “Never be Late for an Important Date with Healthy Planet” – Epic 2017 Users Group Meeting, September 28th, 2017.

- **Gurwitz J.** “Effective Medication Management in the Older Adult with Cardiovascular Disease,” American College of Cardiology 66th Annual Scientific Session (Invited Panelist), 2017.


• Zhang N. National trends of obesity prevalence in U.S. nursing homes, 2005-2015. AGS 2018

Regional / Local


• **Clark R.** “Social Determinant Screening Measures: Options and Considerations.” With Linda Weinreb and Kate Sullivan, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health Fall Retreat, November 3, 2017.

• Eric Ding, Dong Han, Cody Whitcomb, Syed Khairul Bashar, Oluwaseun Adaramola, Dongqi Liu, Apurv Soni, **David D. McManus**, and Ki Chon. B-PO05 -182 / B-PO05 -182 - Accuracy And Usability Of A Novel, Real-time Realizable Algorithm For Atrial Fibrillation Discrimination Using Pulse Data From A Smartwatch: Data From The Ongoing mPower Study. Heart Rhythm Society. Boston. 2018

• **Epstein MM.** “Identifying cases of Monoclonal Gammopathy of Undetermined Significance in electronic health data: An Update,” Projects in Progress Seminar Series, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA. January 2018

• **Fisher KA.** Do We Want to Know? Patient perspectives of breakdowns in care in the ICU and beyond, Pulmonary Division Grand Rounds, December, 2017, University of Massachusetts Medical Center, Worcester, MA

• **Fisher KA.** Open Notes in COPD: A study of the effects of inviting patients with COPD to read their clinic notes, invited research presentation, the Institute for Healthcare Delivery & Population Science, Baystate Medical Center, May 2018.

• **Fisher KA.** When Things Go Wrong Patients' Views on Breakdowns in Care and the Role of Apology, Baystate Medical Center Medical Grand Rounds, May 2018.


• **Garber L.** “Changing the EHR From Liability to Asset to Reduce Physician Burnout” – Massachusetts Medical Society/Massachusetts Hospital Association Joint Task Force on Physician Burnout, April 11th, 2018.


• **Gurwitz J.** “Drugs in Older Adults,” University of Texas Medical Branch (Gavelston, TX), 2017.

- **Gurwitz J.** “We Have Met the Aging and They Are Us,” Positive Aging Symposium, Worcester Senior Center, 2017.

- **Mazor KM.** Grand rounds presentation entitle “When things go wrong – the patient’s point of view.” Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, UMMS, April 2018.

- **Mazor KM.** Invited presentation at meeting entitled “How can we reliably measure competence in aging physicians?” Accelerating the Development of Late Career Practitioner policies at US Healthcare Institutions, invitation only meeting at Univ of WA. May 22nd, 2018

- **Mazor KM, Fisher K.** Medical Staff Meeting, Montgomery Medical Center, Olney MD, December 2018. “What I can do for you is…”


- **Saket Sanghai, Mayank Sardana, Apurv Soni, Nisha Fahey, Sunil Karna, Shyamsundar Raithatha, Harshil Patel, Nita Machhi, Sunil Thanvi, Jeroan Allison, Somashekhar Nimbalkar and David D. McManus.** B-PO02 -099 / B-PO02 -099 - Factors Associated With Atrial Fibrillation Among Indian Adults Participating In The Smart-India AF Screening Study. Heart Rhythm Society. Boston. 2018

- **Mayank Sardana, Apurv Soni, Nisha Fahey, Sunil Karna, Shyamsundar Raithatha, Vikas Parmar, Harshil Patel, Saket Sanghai, David D. McManus, Sunil Thanvi, Jeroan Allison and Somashekhar Nimbalkar.** B-PO02 -137 / B-PO02 -137 - Smartphone Monitoring For Atrial Fibrillation In Real-time In India (smart-india): Age And Sex-stratified Prevalence Of Atrial Fibrillation In Rural Western India. Heart Rhythm Society. Boston. 2018


- **Zhang B.** Invited Talk, Global Scientist Forum and Department of Mathematics, Southern University of Science and Technology, China, January 2018. Title: Marginalized two-part random-effects models and impact of the New Cooperative Medical Scheme on healthcare expenditures in China.