• Members of the faculty of the Institute have combined to author 1,327 publications since 1998. 65 original articles, commentaries, editorials, and book chapters have been published or have been accepted for publication during the 2016 - 2017 period. Faculty published articles in top-tier journals including JAMA, The Lancet, and Annals of Internal Medicine.

• Dr. Kathy Mazor continues to lead an ambitious study entitled “Detecting, Addressing, and Learning from Patient-Perceived Breakdowns in Care.” The study has been conducted in association with MedStar Health, the largest healthcare provider in Maryland and the Washington, DC region and is funded by a $2.5 million grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Dr. Kim Fisher is a collaborator on this important study which is the basis of her 5-year KO8 Career Award, funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Through her K, Dr. Fisher will examine physician perspectives of patient-perceived breakdowns in care, including facilitators and barriers to responding to patient concerns, in order to design an intervention that enables physicians to respond immediately to patient-perceived breakdowns in care.

• Dr. Mazor continues to serve as a member of the Cancer Research Network Executive Committee and is leading the Communications & Dissemination Scientific Workgroup of the Cancer Research Network.

• Dr. Susan Andrade leads 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.

• Together with Dr. Robin Clark, Dr. Andrade is leading the participation of the Meyers Primary Care Institute in the new “Integrating Addiction Research in Health Systems Network,” an endeavor of the Health Care Systems Research Network. 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 association with Fallon Health.

• Investigators at the Meyers Primary Care Institute completed a project entitled “Improving Indwelling Catheter Use to Reduce CAUTI in the Nursing Home Setting” in association with Qualidigm, the Quality Improvement Organization of Connecticut, through a $1.5 million grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. These efforts expanded to involve the New England
Regional National Nursing Home Quality Care Collaborative (NE NHQCC), which is sponsored by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). This collaborative is focused on improving care for residents of nursing homes through a range of strategic initiatives involving over 70% of all nursing homes across New England. A paper describing the current state of catheter use in the nursing home setting was published in the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society.

- Dr. Kapoor is completing a study funded under a Pfizer Grant for Independent Learning and Change entitled “Anticoagulation Medical Home for High Risk Patients.” During the past year, he was also awarded a grant from Bristol-Myers Squibb entitled “Supporting Use of Anticoagulation through Prescriber Profiling of Oral Anticoagulant Therapy for Atrial Fibrillation.”

- Dr. Mara Epstein is serving as the Meyers Primary Care Institute Site PI for the Cancer Research Network (CRN). 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 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, Anne McDonald, and Allison Richards are also leading up these efforts at our trial site which fulfilled the enrollment target of 600 subjects.

- Dr. Gurwitz is the PI of a 4-year R24 grant from the National Institute on Aging entitled the HMORN-OAICs AGING Initiative (Advancing Geriatrics Infrastructure and Network Growth). The project links the research centers across the Health Care Systems Research Network with the NIA-funded, university-based Pepper Centers and focuses on advancing the science of multiple chronic conditions in older adults. An R33 grant application to the NIA has been submitted to continue and expand upon the agenda for this initiative which focuses on advancing the science of multiple chronic conditions in older adults.

- The Meyers Primary Care Institute and Reliant Medical Group are participating in a study newly 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. Dr. Mazor is leading MPCI involvement, with collaborators Drs. Yood and Garber from Reliant Medical
Group, and Drs. Singh, Fisher and Cutrona 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 leaders, patients and staff is providing advice on all aspects of the study.

- Dr. Mayra Tisminetzky is completing work related to a 2-year Diversity Supplement Award from the National Institute on Aging to examine the impact of multiple chronic conditions on outcomes of patients with heart failure. She recently submitted an application for a K23 Career Award from the National Institute on Aging and she published an article in the *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society* describing research priorities to advance the health and healthcare of older adults with multiple chronic conditions.

- Dr. Ning Zhang submitted a KO8 Career Award application to the National Institute on Aging focused on obesity in the nursing home setting.

- 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.
The Health Policy and the Practice of Medicine Interclerkship was held on December 20, 2016. The keynote lecture was delivered by Stuart Altman, PhD, Sol C. Chaikin Professor of National Health Policy, Irving Schneider and Family Institute for Health Policy, Heller School, Brandeis University. His presentation was entitled “The Future of Hospital and Physician Financing: Possible Impact of the Election.” Eric Dickson, MD, President and Chief Executive Officer, UMassMemorial Health Care, delivered a presentation entitled “Diamonds in the Rough: How the Best Healthcare Systems are Delivering Value to Their Communities.” Students participated in case-based small group discussion sessions involving 26 faculty facilitators, including 6 MPCI Board Members.

Geriatric Teaching Days were held April 5-6, 2017. This year’s Visiting Professor was Alice Bonner, PhD, RN, FAAN, Secretary of Elder Affairs for Massachusetts, who described the importance of geriatrics as a career path for medical and nursing students at a student and faculty dinner on April 5; she presented Grand Rounds at both Saint Vincent Hospital and UMMS on April 6, 2017. Her Grand Rounds presentation was entitled “Elder Abuse: The Clinician’s Role in Addressing a Public Health Crisis.”

The 8th Annual Chief Resident Immersion Training Program took place May 12-14, 2017. Sixteen rising chief residents participated; specialties represented included Internal Medicine, Gynecology, Family Medicine, Psychiatry, Surgery, Orthopedics, Neurology and Cardiology. This year’s CRIT weekend was generously sponsored by Fallon Health. The innovative CRIT 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.

Multiple faculty serve in leadership, mentor, and teaching roles within the UMass Clinical and Population Health Research doctoral program including Drs. Mazor, Epstein, Tismanetzky, Goldberg, and Clark.
Catarina Kiefe, PhD, MD was unanimously elected to a second two-year term as Chair and President of the MPCI Board of Directors.

Thomas Ebert was appointed to the Executive Committee of the MPCI Board of Directors.

Robert Cavanaugh, MD, MBA and David Wilner, MD departed as MPCI Directors.

Michael Sheehy, MD and Gerald Gleich, MD were appointed as new MPCI Directors.
Dr. Sonal Singh was appointed as an investigator at the Meyers Primary Care Institute in partnership with the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health.

Dr. Jerry Gurwitz completed his two-year term as Chair of the Health Care Systems Research Network Governing Board. He continues to serve on that organization’s Executive Committee. He was appointed to the Board of Managers of the Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute/Department of Population Medicine at Harvard Medical School. He also served as Visiting Professor of Geriatric Medicine at the Sealy Center on Aging at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, Texas.

Dr. Gurwitz served as a Workgroup Co-Chair at a conference convened by the NIH Director, Dr. Francis Collins - “Inclusions across the Lifespan.” The conference examined the challenges and barriers to inclusion of children and older adults in clinical trials.

Dr. Kathy Mazor has continued to Chair PCORI review panels on Communication and Dissemination; she has also served as a reviewer and co-Chair for a NIH special emphasis panel on Methodology and Measurement in the Behavioral and Social Sciences.

Dr. Mazor continues to serve as a Member of the Senior Advisory Committee, Collaborative for Communication and Resolution, and was recently appointed Chair of the Best Practices & Standards Subcommittee for this group.

Dr. Susan Andrade was acknowledged at the University of Massachusetts Medical School’s Convocation Ceremony in regard to her promotion to full professor.

Dr. Robin Clark served as a reviewer on two Special Emphasis Panels for the National Institute on Drug Abuse: “HIV, HCV and Related Comorbidities in Rural Communities Affected by Opioid Injection Drug Epidemics in the United States: Building Systems for Prevention, Treatment and Control” and “Services Planning Research in the Appalachian Region to Address Adverse Health Consequences Associated with Increased Opioid Injection Drug Use”.

Dr. Clark is a member of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, Health Economics and Finance Expert Advisor Panel.

Dr. Sybil Crawford was awarded an Honorable Mention for her poster “The Impact of Breast Cancer on Sexual Functioning from The Study of Women’s Health Across the Nation (SWAN)” at the annual meeting of the American Society of Preventive Oncology in Seattle.
• Dr. Sarah Cutrona was appointed Co-Director, Medication Optimization Program Center for Healthcare Organization & Implementation Research at the Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial VA Hospital. Dr. Cutrona is also leading an ambitious Quality Improvement Initiative related to Hepatitis C treatment at Edith Norse Rogers Memorial VA Hospital.

• Dr. Mara Epstein was selected to participate in the Early Career Reviewer Program at National Institutes of Health Center for Scientific Review and she was appointed to the faculty of the Graduate School of Nursing at UMMS.

• Dr. Larry Garber continues to play a variety of leadership roles both locally and nationally, serving on the Epic Population Health Steering Board, the DirectTrust.org Board (where he is also a Direct Directory Policy Workgroup member), the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) Health IT Policy Committee and Health IT Standards Committee’s Joint Interoperability Experience Task Force, and the Massachusetts eHealth Collaborative (MAeHC) Board for which he serves as Chair of the Executive Committee.
Two UMMS Students (Tiffany Chen and Maegan Pollard) who were recipients of MSTAR (Medical Student Training in Aging Research) Awards in 2016 presented their research at the 2017 Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Geriatrics Society.

Tom Gomes is a 2017 recipient of an MSTAR Award from UMMS and will be conducting a research project relating to the STRIDE study.
1998


1999


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2000


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2001


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2014


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In Press


Selected Presentations by MPCI Faculty

International


National


• Garber L. “Advancing Interoperable Health Information Exchange” - ONC Long Term and Post-Acute Care Community of Practice Webinar, January 5th, 2016.

• Garber L. “Alternative Payment Models, Complex Care Needs, HIT and IMPACT: Why doctors should care” – American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) 2016 Long Term & Post Acute Care Health IT Summit, June 26th, 2016.

• Garber L. “Connected Care: From New England to England” - Medical Informatics World Conference, April 5th, 2016.


• Garber L. “Never be Late for an Important Date with Healthy Planet” - Epic 2016 Users Group Meeting, September 21st, 2016.


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

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

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


• **Sandford LS, Fouayzi H,** Sundaesan D, **Gurwitz, J, Field T, Mazor K, Garber L, Cutrona SL.** Tracking Healthcare Team Response to EHR Asynchronous Alerts: Role of In-Basket Message Burden. Poster presentation at Health Care Systems Research Network Annual Meeting (presented by Ms. Sandford April 2016)


• **Tisminetzky M**, Nguyen H, **Gurwitz J**, **McManus D**, Gore J, **Goldberg R**. Age and Sex Differences in the Magnitude of, and Hospital Death Rates Associated With, Multiple Chronic Conditions in Older Adults Hospitalized with Acute Myocardial Infarction. 2017 HCSRN Conference March 21-24, 2017 San Diego CA.


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**Local**


