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Topics

- ACS
- Cardiometabolic risk
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- Dyslipidemia
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- Heart failure
- Hypertension
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- Prevention

Sections

- HeartWire
  - Editorial series
  - CME programs
  - Academic series
  - Sponsored education
  - Forum
- The Fellows' corner

Highlights

Features



Attack of the clones? Cardiology journals multiply in 2008

That *thud* could be the sound of eight new journals landing on your desk, offspring of *JACC* and *Circulation* that focus on specific areas of cardiology. Boosters say they are good for the field, but others question how much they're needed.

Cardiology panels



From evidence to practice: Narrowing the gap

Dr Keith Fox talks to Drs Gregg Stone and Robert Harrington about why it takes so long for new evidence-based therapies to be adopted in clinical practice, the importance of national registries, and what can be done to make treatment guidelines more useful.



Murmurs

Drs James Fang and Mukesh Jain leaving the Brigham for Case Western Reserve University; Dr Ileana Piña heads to Lewis Stokes VA medical center

May 9, 2006 Shelley Wood

Cleveland, OH - Two more Harvard/Brigham and Women's Hospital (BWH) physicians are moving to Case Western Reserve University, joining friend and colleague **Dr Daniel I Simon**, who with his wife, pediatric cardiologist **Dr Marcy Schwartz**, were recruited to Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine earlier this year. And there may be more to come, Simon hinted to **heartwire**.

**Dr Mukesh Jain** starts July 1, 2006 as the associate chief for research, Sedgwick Professor of Medicine, and director of the Cardiovascular Research Institute. **Dr James Fang** will be joining Case full time August 1, 2006 as associate chief for clinical affairs and as director of heart failure, transplantation, and circulatory assistance.

"This is a big deal," Simon told **heartwire**. "They're really superstars at the Brigham and they're going to bring a lot to the clinical and research programs at Case."

Meanwhile, **Dr Ileana L Piña**, the current director in the section of heart failure and cardiac transplantation, has accepted a position as a VA Quality Scholar at the Lewis Stokes VA Medical Center in Cleveland, a part of the division of cardiology at Case. Piña accepted the two-year fellowship, which begins July 1, before Fang's recruitment and acceptance of the directorship.

"I think I'm leaving Dr Fang a terrific program that is internationally recognized for excellence in clinical care," Piña told **heartwire**. "The [University Hospitals of Cleveland] UHC has an outstanding record of quality performance, we participate in the AHA [Guidelines Applied in Practice] GAP program for improving quality care, and we are doing very well with it. We also have many ongoing clinical trials in heart failure. . . . Our heart-failure program is doing extremely well and, if anything, what we've needed is more faculty to accommodate the number of patients."

The new recruits are part of an ongoing push to create a national center of excellence in cardiovascular research, education, and patient care at Case and UHC. The newly christened Case Cardiovascular Center encompasses clinical and research components, including the new Case Cardiovascular Research Institute (CVRI) housed in the Wolstein Research Building. Roughly 10 000 square feet of space has already been set aside here, with the aim of expanding to nearly 25 000 square feet with future recruits.

So far, Simon has confirmed that Case/UHC is in the process of recruiting six full-time clinicians and five physician-scientists (three associate professors and two assistant professors) for the CVRI and hinted that some of these positions may also be filled from Boston. Simon also stated that he expects at least five members of his research team at BWH—a combination of physician-scientists, PhDs, and a technician—will also be accompanying him to Case.

Mission with vision

In an interview with **heartwire**, Jain was effusive in his praise of what he called the "vision" put together by Simon, along with **Dean Ralph Horowitz** and chair of medicine at Case, **Dr Richard Walsh**, for the blossoming cardiovascular research program at Case/UHC.

"The resources allocated for this initiative coupled with the large number of outstanding investigators already at Case Medical Center make this an exceptionally exciting opportunity," Jain stated. He anticipates that five or six of the scientists and physician-scientists in his group in Boston will accompany him to Case; Jain is currently director of the cardiovascular transcriptional biology program and assistant professor in the cardiovascular division at BWH. Once at Case, Jain says the areas of interest that his team will be focusing on will be genetic and epigenetic regulation of cardiac and vascular cell development and function, stem-cell biology and regenerative medicine,

Highlights from antiplatelet therapy during PCI: New perspectives  
Co-chaired by **Drs Berger and Dangas**, this activity will review clinical data pertinent for the management of patients during PCI. With presentations from **Drs Antman, Schneider, Stone and Topol** CME

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**Genetic beta-blockade**

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Dr Eric Topol invites you to share your opinions.

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HeartWire clips

**On moving to industry: Interview with Dr Terry Ferguson**

In conversation with heartwire news and features editor Larry Husten, Dr Terry Ferguson muses on changes to daily life, decision making processes, and patient care from a different perspective resulting from his new position in industry.

The Cardiology Show



**Surrogate end points on trial: ENHANCE and other controversies Part 2 is now live!**

Nine of the world's top cardiologists gathered in Chicago to take on the issues raised by data released at the American College of Cardiology Scientific Sessions.

Dr Valentin Fuster moderates this frank and sometimes heated discussion on the results of ENHANCE, STRADIVARIUS, ONTARGET, and PERISCOPE, and the questions they raise about the responsibility of industry and the relevance of surrogate end points.

Forum



**Smoking ban?**

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Thumbs up, thumbs down



**Controversies: ENHANCE and ACCORD**

and human genetics and animal models of disease, among others.

Jain said he is also "particularly pleased" to be working with Simon and Fang, "two of my closest colleagues and friends" from BWH.

"We have all had the chance to 'grow up' together at the Brigham and Women's Hospital, which, in my view, is truly the quintessential academic medical center," Jain said. "I feel very blessed to have been mentored and advised by a number of remarkable individuals at the Brigham, including Drs Peter Libby, Thomas Michel, Patrick T O'Gara, and Joseph Loscalzo. It is my hope that together with Drs Simon and Fang, we will build a cardiovascular program that will make them very proud."

Fang told heartwire that while he is "very sad" to be leaving the Brigham, his colleagues, friends, and patients, he expressed similar enthusiasm to Jain about the opportunities at Case. "I'm looking forward to building a cardiovascular center to complement Case Western Reserve's strong reputation in research and clinical care with two close BWH colleagues. It is rare these days to be able to go to such an opportunity as part of an outstanding team that you know well."

With Simon and Jain, Fang will first be concentrating on recruiting new faculty. On the clinical side, this will be focused in such areas as consultative cardiology, cardiovascular imaging, heart failure/transplant, electrophysiology, and interventional cardiology.

At the VA medical center, Piña plans to focus on health-outcomes research methodology.

"This is really the way heart-failure care is heading—improving quality—especially since Medicare is going to start to pay for quality. This is an up-and-coming area and of course I'm going to focus on heart failure."

Piña also spends approximately 30% of her time as a consultant to the FDA; she will continue to have a research clinic at UHC, while also performing clinical services at UHC and at the VA as part of her fellowship.

At the end of the fellowship, Piña says she has a lot of options. For now, she says, "I love this medical school; I think Case is a superb medical school, and I'll continue to be very involved in its activities and hope to continue being very active in the curriculum."

**Related link**

Dan Simon heads to Case Western Reserve University and University Hospitals of Cleveland [HeartWire > Murmurs; Mar 23, 2006]

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**Critical updates the role of atherosclerosis, hypertension and diabetes in cardiovascular disease: Call to action for the cardiologist**  
 Drs Eckel, Bakris, Brown, Haffner and Leahy review established and emerging risk factors for cardiovascular disease and evaluate emerging therapies and clinical data on the treatment of atherosclerosis, hypertension and diabetes. **CME**

