

HIP NEWSLETTER

A year-in-review from the Emory-Georgia Tech Healthcare Innovation Program

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A Year-in-Review and Thank-You

As we reflect upon a productive year full of symposia, networking nights, and healthcare innovation highlights, we recognize that our society continues to grapple with the COVID-19 pandemic as it has evolved and brought new challenges. We again express our gratitude to healthcare professionals working tirelessly to care for all and to keep us safe.

Through the mental, spiritual, and physical trauma of the COVID-19 pandemic, the perseverance of healthcare workers is invaluable and it is impossible to quantify the gratitude we feel toward you all.

This is a thank-you to the nurses, physicians, CNAs, maintenance workers, hospital kitchen staff, long-term carers, and everyone that has worked to provide safe and quality care in the midst of this pandemic.

HIP Symposia Overviews & Highlights

HIP hosted three symposia over the past year, highlighted below. Click the titles to follow visit the symposia pages. Details on our upcoming symposia are coming soon.

[HIP Symposium XXXVII: Beyond COVID - Lessons Learned](#)

Keynote Speaker: Mark McClellan, MD, PhD

Date: April 20, 2022

Panelists:

Ravi Bellamkonda, PhD

Joseph A. Tyndall, MD, MPH

Sanjay Desai, MD

Sharon Pappas, PhD, RN, FAAN

Carlos del Rio, MD



[HIP Symposium XXXVI: COVID Stress - The 2nd Pandemic](#)

Keynote Speaker: Deb Houry, MD, MPH

Date: February 24, 2022

Panelists:

Tim Cunningham, RN, DRPH

Kisha B. Holden, PhD, MSCR

Charles Lane, BA

Stuart Rothenberg, MD

Daniel Monti, MD, MBA

Linda Grabbe, PhD, FNP, PMHNP

J. Douglas Bremner, MD

Chad Ritenour, MD



[HIP Symposium XXXVI: COVID Vaccine Boosters: Why, What, and When](#)

Keynote Speaker: Kathleen M. Neuzil, MD, MPH

Date: October 29, 2021

Panelists:

Sara E. Oliver, MD, MSPH

Kisha B. Holden, PhD, MSCR

Rafi Ahmed, PhD

Walter A. Orenstein, MD

Carlos del Rio, MD



2021-2022 HIP Synergy Award Faculty Recipients

A Novel Web-based Decision Aid Tool for Reducing COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy

Principal Investigator: Ambar Kulshreshtha, MD, PhD

Research Team: Emily Wall, PhD, Shivani A. Patel, PhD, Zanthia Wiley, MD, Belinda Adeje, RN, MBA, Piyush Kumar, PhD

The proposal of this project aims to develop and evaluate a simple, personalized, data-driven, visual decision aid for tailored health communication around the COVID-19 vaccine and need for boosters.

Contributions of Social Determinants of Health to Susceptibility and Severity of COVID-19 Across the U.S.

Principal Investigator: Julie Gazmararian, PhD, MPH

Research Team: Lawrence Phillips, MD, Kirk Easley, MS, Traci Leong, PhD

The long term goal of this project is to create policies and practices that mitigate the adverse impacts of social determinants of health on health outcomes among veterans – and the US population in general.

Psychological Effects of Long COVID on Healthcare Workers

Principal Investigator: Sarah Cook, MD

Research Team: Kisha B. Holden, PhD, MSCR, Nadine J. Kaslow, PhD, Courtney Crooks, PhD, Alexander Truong, MD, Tiffany Walker, MD, Shujing Zhang, MS, MPhil

This project aims to develop a Wellness Toolkit to address the psychological impact of COVID-19 on healthcare workers.

2021-2022 HIP Synergy Award

Student Recipients

The Potential for Anti-Occlusion Technology in Drainage Catheters

Principal Investigator: Wallace Garrett, Medical Student, Emory University School of Medicine

Research Team: Emily Wall, PhD, Shivani A. Patel, PhD, Zanthia Wiley, MD, Belinda Adeje, RN, MBA, Piyush Kumar, PhD

Faculty Sponsor: Nariman Nezami, MD, Department of Radiology, Emory University School of Medicine

This project aims to decrease the number of repeat operations, reduce healthcare costs and improve patient quality of life and care by developing an effective catheter drainage system that reduces the probability of occlusion.

Developing a Novel Toolkit (Empower-Connect) to Improve Telemedicine Experience for Patients and Providers

Principal Investigator: Vinta Subramanya, Doctoral Student, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University

Research Team: Sarah Coats, Medical Student, Emory University School of Medicine, Elise Ozbardakci, MA, MS, Graduate Student, Clinical Psychology, Emory University School of Medicine, Graham Crain, Undergraduate Student, Finance/Strategy & Management Consulting, Emory University

Faculty Sponsor: Ambar Kulshreshtha, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor of Family and Preventive Medicine, Emory University School of Medicine

The overarching aim of this proposal is to address provider empathy and cross-cultural communication in telehealth visits using a multi-dimensional approach.

PocketDoc: Empowering Patients Through Recovery and Beyond

Principal Investigator: Christopher Awad Dual Degree Candidate, Emory University's MD/MBA Program

Research Team: Arndt Linzi, Dual Degree Candidate, Emory University's MD/MBA Program, Martinek Alexander, Medical Student, Morehouse School of Medicine Anna Casasola, School of Engineering, Department of Industrial Design, Georgia State University, Jeffery Surprenant, Adam & Reiss, LLP

Faculty Sponsor: Bercu Zachary, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Radiology and Imaging Sciences Emory University School of Medicine

The goal of this proposal is to create a comprehensive, customizable organizational toolkit for engaging patients in the coordination of their care and incentivizing them to provide rarely collected outcome measures before and after an interventional radiologic procedure.

Spring 2022 IHI Case Competition

In Spring 2022, HIP, in conjunction with the Georgia CTSA and the Institute for Health Improve (IHI) Emory chapter, sponsored the first annual Emory x Georgia Tech IHI case competition. The case competition is an event where undergraduate and graduate students at Emory and Georgia Tech team up to address a health issue within the local community through innovative proposals.



In the inaugural competition, student teams were tasked with developing recommendations to improve the disparities among diabetic patients in the Georgia population. A total of 25 interdisciplinary teams of students joined the competition with proposals, of which the top five were selected to present at the final, in-person presentation. The winners of the competition received a cash prize, a portion of which goes towards implementing their proposed case solution within a Metro-Atlanta Healthcare System.

HIP congratulates the first-place winners of this year's competition (seen below), Nishone T, Eudorah V, Lauren A, and Raaven G! The team proposed an integrated approach to telehealth through a combination of a mobile app and mobile clinics called YouDU WeDU. The goal was to create a centralized platform that improves access to healthcare and informs and educates patients on their disease. [The presentations of the top two teams can be viewed at this link.](#)



HIP would like to thank all participating student teams and the judges for the case competition. Judges included HIP's director, Dr. Fred Sanfilippo, MD, PhD, Dr. Jessica Harding, PhD, Dr. Guillermo Umpierrez, MD, Elizabeth Woodcock DrPH, MBA, FACMPE, CPC, Dr. Nathan Spell, MD, Dr. David Murphy, Dr. Sol Jacobs, MD, and Michael J. Carr, MD.

IHI Co-president Interview

IHI co-presidents, Katharine Rainer and Julie Shabto, with support from HIP's seed grant, designed and implemented the inaugural IHI case competition. They answered questions about the competition in an interview:

Can you describe the case competition design and the initial goals you set? Did you expect to see specific outcomes at the beginning of the project?

The goal of our inaugural interdisciplinary case competition was to give graduate and undergraduate students the opportunity to collaborate to develop a solution for an important, real-life healthcare issue. For this year's case competition, we challenged students to address disparities in diabetes care within the Georgia population and to develop a standard pathway for patients with limited access to healthcare to receive long-term, outpatient diabetes care.

The initial goals that we set were to 1) create the infrastructure of the case competition (timeline, subject matter experts, judges, website), 2) write the case prompt, 3) collaborate with subject matter experts in the fields of business, epidemiology, medicine, and policy, 4) obtain de-identified patient and county-specific datasets, 5) advertise the competition to Emory University and Georgia Tech students and 6) promote collaboration across institutions by requiring that participating teams represent at least two different school programs. Specific outcomes that we expected were: 1) to have >10 teams participate in the case competition, 2) improve collaboration among graduate and undergraduate students at Emory and Georgia Tech, 3) develop the framework and institutional connection that would allow for future case competitions and 4) increase awareness of the IHI Open School chapter at Emory.

What were the results of your project design?

We had 100 students sign up to participate and over 20 multidisciplinary teams compete in the case competition! We successfully promoted collaboration across institutions and we worked with experts in business, epidemiology, medicine, and policy to develop the case prompt and obtain data for participants.



IHI Co-president Interview (continued)

All participating teams presented solutions for improving longitudinal diabetes care in Georgia. Their deliverables presented innovative recommendations to improve the disparities in diabetic patients within the Georgia population, incorporated real-world data, targeted a specific Georgia county in which their solution would be implemented, addressed social determinants of health within the patient population, and included a visionary financing implementation plan. The Top Five teams presented live to a panel of judges and the first and second place teams won cash prizes. The judges were impressed by the variety of solutions posed by teams and the caliber of team presentations.

What did you think of the seed grant process and the case competition? What would you recommend for future participants?

We are so glad that we applied for the seed grant for this project and are so appreciative of the financial support that HIP provided! We feel that the case competition was a success, and several students and judges are excited for another IHI case competition next year. For future participants in the case competition, we recommend that teams include students from at least two school programs and that teams develop solutions that incorporate the real-world data provided to them.

If you are graduating, what are you moving on to and excited about in the future?

We are both graduating! Katie will be a resident in Internal Medicine at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Julie will be a resident in Ophthalmology at Columbia University Irving Medical Center/NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital. We are excited to continue healthcare system reform and QI work in our respective fields. We hope that the IHI Open School Emory chapter will continue to host case competitions and that Emory and Georgia Tech students will join IHI and HIP in leading the charge to shape healthcare delivery.

A Note from HIP

HIP congratulates Julie and Katie on the launch of the IHI competition and wishes them success as they move on to exciting new stages in their careers!

Following the rollout of the inaugural competition, HIP and IHI will sponsor a second case competition planned for Spring of 2023. We invite students to stay tuned for further details.

Spring 2022 Student Networking Night

HIP hosted its annual student networking night on Thursday, April 28th, 2022. This year the event was virtual. As part of its efforts to foster connectivity in the public health world and opportunity for students, HIP continues to sponsor this annual event for university students. Fourteen public health professionals spanning the government and non-profit sectors joined the virtual networking event to speak with students about their experiences as public health practitioners and in the industry. Students were delighted to have the opportunity to interact with dedicated public health professionals and learn their stories. HIP would like to thank all of the participating professionals for joining us for the event.

HIP plans to host a student networking night this upcoming school year. All students interested in speaking with a variety of professionals in the health sector are invited to attend. This event is an opportunity for students to make valuable connections and to hear first hand the career paths professionals have taken. HIP will publish more details on the event during this upcoming semester.



PHOTO FROM Past HIP Student Networking Night



PHOTO FROM Past HIP Student Networking Night