

Faculty Joining the Department of Medicine Between 9/1/2019 & 2/29/2020



Emily Barker, MD

Assistant Professor

**Division of General Internal
Medicine and Public Health**

Previous Institution: River Oaks Doctors Group

Previous Role/Title: Co-Founder, Practice Manager

Specialty: Internal Medicine

Education/Training: M.D. - Tulane University School of Medicine

Hometown: Houston, TX

Interests/Achievements: Dr. Emily Barker graduated from Tulane University School of Medicine in 2002. After completing her training in internal medicine at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Dr. Barker was on the faculty at the University of California in San Diego for two years where she taught third-year medical students during their internal medicine rotation and served as Co-Medical Director of VA San Diego's Systems Redesign, a national collaboration for quality improvement in VA hospitals.

In 2009, Dr. Barker co-developed River Oaks Doctors Group (RODG) in Houston, TX, after realizing that modern medicine did not allow her to practice in a way she felt every patient deserved. While at RODG and continuing today, she thrives on close and lasting relationships with her patients as though they are family. Every text and phone call she receives gives her confidence in the care she is providing to her patients. She knows who they are, what medications they are taking, and who their families are. Dr. Barker believes nothing is more rewarding than making a difference in the life of someone who has entrusted his or her health and well-being to her.

Dr. Barker is married to Dr. Colin Barker, and they have four children and two dogs.

Previous Institution: LSU Family Medicine

Previous Role/Title: M.D.

Specialty: Family Medicine

Education/Training: M.D. - University of Medicine & Health Sciences

Hometown: Nashville, TN

Interests/Achievements: Dr. Boura is interested in global health improvement initiatives, especially with respect to women and pediatrics. She would like to travel to third-world countries and be involved in improving healthcare in those countries. From a clinician's viewpoint, she appreciates the dynamic settings of urgent care, yet welcomes the academic side of medicine to expand her knowledge base. She enjoys cooking, traveling, going on medical missions, exploring different cultures and traditions, outdoor activities (e.g., zip-lining, jet skiing, hiking), and will partake in just about anything that enables her to conquer her fears. She is fluent in Farsi, Urdu, Pashtu, Hindi, Dari, and has a working knowledge of Spanish and French.

Sadiqa Boura, MD

Instructor in Clinical Medicine

**Division of General Internal
Medicine and Public Health**

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Eve Bowers, MD

**Assistant Professor of Clinical
Medicine**

**Division of General Internal
Medicine and Public Health**

Previous Institution: Lee Community Healthcare

Previous Role/Title: Primary Care Physician

Specialty: Internal Medicine

Education/Training: M.D. - Emory University School of Medicine

Hometown: Columbia, SC

Interests/Achievements: Dr. Bowers received her bachelor's degree from Duke University in Durham, NC, and her medical degree from Emory University in Atlanta, GA. After completing her internal medicine residency at Baylor School of Medicine, she remained in Houston, TX, to join a large, private, multi-specialty physician group. There, she spent seven years as a primary care physician, including call for inpatient admissions and being a clinical instructor for internal medicine residents at Baylor. Dr. Bowers and her family relocated to Fort Myers, FL, between 2017-2019 where she practiced outpatient medicine for a federally qualified healthcare center (FQHC) that supported the uninsured and under-insured community. She looks forward to bringing her experience to Vanderbilt from working in a variety of healthcare settings, in various clinical roles, and with diverse patient populations.

Clinical interests include preventive health care and behavioral health integration.



Angela Chen, MD

Assistant Professor

**Division of General Internal
Medicine and Public Health**

Previous Institution: Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Previous Role/Title: Resident

Specialty: Internal Medicine

Education/Training: M.D. - New York University School of Medicine

Hometown: Boulder, CO

Interests/Achievements: Dr. Angela Chen recently joined the Vanderbilt faculty in the Division of General Internal Medicine and Public Health, with a focus on primary care. After spending equal parts of her childhood in Houston, TX, and Boulder, CO, she completed a Bachelor of Arts in cognitive science at Rice University, medical school at New York University School of Medicine, and residency at Vanderbilt University. Her husband is also a physician, currently training in pulmonary critical care. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, skiing, music, and spending time with family. She is very excited about this opportunity and looks forward to being a part of the Vanderbilt team.

Faculty Joining the Department of Medicine Between 9/1/2019 & 2/29/2020



Katie Coate, PhD

Research Instructor

**Division of Diabetes,
Endocrinology, and Metabolism**

Previous Institution: Samford University

Previous Role/Title: Assistant Professor & Director, MS in Nutrition Program

Specialty: Metabolic Regulation, Diabetes

Education/Training: Ph.D. - Vanderbilt University

Hometown: Birmingham, AL

Interests/Achievements: Dr. Coate has had a longstanding interest in studying the metabolic aspects and molecular basis of diabetes. She obtained a doctoral degree in the laboratory of Dr. Alan D. Cherrington at Vanderbilt University where she found that a high-fat and high-sugar diet diminishes the ability of the liver to consume glucose and synthesize glycogen during conditions that mimic the fed state. This work was carried out by assessing glucose tracer kinetics in a large animal model of diet-induced insulin resistance and highlighted the key regulatory role of the liver in mitigating postprandial hyperglycemia. To expand and enhance her scientific skills and boundaries, she chose to pursue postdoctoral training in the joint laboratory of Drs. David Mangelsdorf and Steve Kliewer at UT Southwestern Medical Center. There, she created genetically engineered mouse models to study the physiology and pharmacology of fibroblast growth factor 21 (FGF21) in the pancreas. She discovered that FGF21 acts as a digestive enzyme secretagogue and protects pancreatic cells from protein-folding stress. Now she will leverage her expertise in the aforementioned areas by investigating how cells of the endocrine pancreas sense and respond to changes in their extracellular environment in health and disease. Specifically, she will study the mechanism(s) by which antagonism of glucagon action and concomitant hyperaminoacidemia stimulate beta cell proliferation and function in mouse and human islets. This is an important yet understudied pathway with direct clinical application for the treatment of diabetes.



Sarah Croessmann, PhD

Research Assistant Professor

Division of Hematology/Oncology

Previous Institution: Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Previous Role/Title: Postdoctoral Fellow

Specialty: Breast Cancer Biology and Genetics

Education/Training: Ph.D. - Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

Hometown: Rochester, NY

Interests/Achievements: Dr. Croessmann's research interests include the role of mutations in the development of therapeutic resistance and the utilization of liquid biopsies to detect potential biomarkers. Currently, her research focuses on the role of activating ESR1 mutations in metastatic breast cancer patients and their potential role as a biomarker to determine treatment course.

Dr. Croessmann received a dual undergraduate degree with distinction in chemistry and studio art from the University of Virginia in 2009. She then completed a PhD in pathobiology at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in 2015. In 2018, Dr. Croessmann finished a postdoctoral research fellowship in the laboratory of Dr. Carlos Arteaga at Vanderbilt University Medical Center and joined the laboratory of Dr. Ben Ho Park.

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Caroline Eskind, MD

Instructor

Division of Infectious Diseases

Previous Institution: Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Previous Role/Title: Clinical Fellow

Specialty: Infectious Diseases

Education/Training: M.D. - University of Virginia

Hometown: McLean, VA

Interests/Achievements:



Daniel Gustavson, PhD

Research Instructor

Division of Genetic Medicine

Previous Institution:

Previous Role/Title: Staff Scientist

Specialty: Behavior Genetics; Structural Equation Modeling

Education/Training: Ph.D. - University of Colorado

Hometown: Boulder, CO

Interests/Achievements:



Andreana Holowatyj, PhD

Assistant Professor

Division of Epidemiology

Previous Institution: Human Cancer Institute, University of Utah

Previous Role/Title: Post-Doctoral Fellow, Population Sciences

Specialty: Molecular Cancer Epidemiology

Education/Training: M.S.C.I. - University of Utah School of Medicine

Ph.D. - Wayne State University School of Medicine

Hometown: Salt Lake City, UT

Interests/Achievements:

Faculty Joining the Department of Medicine Between 9/1/2019 & 2/29/2020



Reena Jayani, MD
Assistant Professor

Division of Hematology/Oncology

Previous Institution: Moffitt Cancer Center

Previous Role/Title: Blood and Marrow Transplant and Cellular Immunotherapy Fellow

Specialty: Hematology/Oncology

Education/Training: M.D. - Medical University of Lublin

Hometown: Glendora, CA

Interests/Achievements: Dr. Jayani specializes in caring for adults with hematologic malignancies with a focus on blood and marrow transplantation and cellular immunotherapy. She is passionate about improving the care of older adults with hematologic malignancies receiving these intensive therapies. She is also interested in the importance of physical activity in patients receiving transplant and cellular immunotherapy.

Previous Institution: Louisiana State University

Previous Role/Title: Research Scientist

Specialty: Computational Data Science

Education/Training:

Hometown: Seoul, South Korea

Interests/Achievements:

Joohyun Kim, PhD

Research Instructor

Division of Genetic Medicine



Cecily Montgomery, MD

Instructor in Clinical Medicine

**Division of General Internal
Medicine and Public Health**

Previous Institution:

Previous Role/Title:

Specialty: Family Medicine

Education/Training: M.D. - Howard University College of Medicine

Hometown: Washington, DC

Interests/Achievements: Dr. Cecily Montgomery is interested in women's health and preventive medicine.

Faculty Joining the Department of Medicine Between 9/1/2019 & 2/29/2020



Daniel Ontenient, MD

**Assistant Professor of Clinical
Medicine**

**Division of General Internal
Medicine and Public Health**

Previous Institution: University of Alabama at Birmingham

Previous Role/Title: Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine

Specialty: Hospital Medicine

Education/Training: M.D. - University of Louisville School of Medicine

Hometown: Miami, FL

Interests/Achievements: Dr. Ontenient recently joined the faculty in the Division of General Internal Medicine in the Section of Hospital Medicine at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Born and raised in Miami, FL, he graduated from the University of Florida with a degree in biochemistry. He attended medical school at the University of Louisville, where he met his wife. Together, they couples-matched at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), he in internal medicine and she in pediatrics. Afterwards, he stayed on as faculty at UAB as a hospitalist attending, while she completed her fellowship in pediatric hospital medicine. Dr. Ontenient's academic interests include clinical education and patient-centered care. Outside of medicine, he enjoys playing and watching sports, listening to podcasts, traveling, and spending time with his family and friends.



Amit Parulekar, MD

Associate Professor

**Division of Allergy, Pulmonary, and
Critical Care Medicine**

Previous Institution: Baylor College of Medicine

Previous Role/Title: Associate Professor of Medicine

Specialty: Lung Transplantation

Education/Training:

Hometown: Fulton, MO

Interests/Achievements:

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Sun Peck, PhD

Assistant Professor

Division of Clinical Pharmacology

Previous Institution: Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania

Specialty: Spine Development, Carbohydrate Biology

Education/Training: Ph.D. - Harvard University

Hometown: Seoul, South Korea

Interests/Achievements: Dr. Peck received her doctorate in chemical biology from Harvard University, where she developed novel molecular evolution techniques to study protein-protein interactions and protein function. Her interests in macromolecular chemistry led her to pursue postdoctoral research in lysosomal storage disorders and pathological consequences of dysregulated metabolism, which resulted in an NIH F32 postdoctoral fellowship award in investigating failed vertebral bone formation in mucopolysaccharidoses (MPS) disorders as a consequence of aberrant glycosaminoglycan metabolism. Through this award, Dr. Peck elucidated molecular mechanisms underlying failed bone formation during development in MPS, which has led to large animal model studies assessing potential therapeutic strategies. During her postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Peck also made important contributions to the field of disc biology by elucidating the transcriptomic profile of early disc development, which has significant implications in addressing the substantial clinical need for treating disc degeneration. Dr. Peck's overall research interests are to combine her chemistry background with her postdoctoral experience in musculoskeletal biology to investigate carbohydrate-mediated signaling in spine development and homeostasis, to determine how dysfunction in these signals lead to degeneration and diseased states, and to develop biologic and engineering approaches to regenerative therapies for musculoskeletal tissues. In addition to her research activities, Dr. Peck is dedicated to serving the scientific community at large and is a member of the American Society of Bone and Mineral Research Early Stage Investigator subcommittee and is serving as the chair for the 2020 Musculoskeletal Biology and Bioengineering Gordon Research Seminar.

Previous Role/Title: Postdoctoral Fellow



Tetyana Pedchenko, PhD

Research Assistant Professor

Division of Nephrology and Hypertension

Previous Institution: Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Specialty: Molecular Biology, Immunology, Biochemistry, Cell Biology

Education/Training: Ph.D. - Institute of Pharmacology & Toxicology

Hometown: Nashville, TN

Interests/Achievements: Dr. Tetyana Pedchenko's research interests include inflammation and immunity and their interplay underlying various diseases. She studied the macrophage regulation of lung inflammation, and her main research objective is to understand and target the mechanisms involved at the molecular and sub-cellular levels. Dr. Pedchenko's longstanding research interest is the mechanism of autoimmune diseases. She conducted the study showing the IgM response to lung cancer development and investigating the role of autoreactive, pathogenic B cells in type 1 diabetes. Her research has spanned basic preclinical models to human studies.

Previous Role/Title: Research Assistant Professor

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Richard Printz, PhD

Research Assistant Professor
**Division of Diabetes,
Endocrinology, and Metabolism**

Previous Institution:
Specialty:
Education/Training: Ph.D. - Vanderbilt University School of Medicine
Hometown:
Interests/Achievements:

Previous Role/Title:



William Rasberry, Jr, MD

**Assistant Professor of Clinical
Medicine**
**Division of General Internal
Medicine and Public Health**

Previous Institution: Maury Regional Medical Center
Specialty: Hospital Medicine
Education/Training: M.D. - Quillen College of Medicine
Hometown: Tupelo, MS
Interests/Achievements:

Previous Role/Title: Hospitalist



Brian Rini, MD

Professor
Division of Hematology/Oncology

Previous Institution: Cleveland Clinic
Specialty: Medical Oncology; Genitourinary Cancer
Education/Training: M.D. - The Ohio State University College of Medicine
Hometown: Cleveland, OH
Interests/Achievements:

Previous Role/Title: Professor of Medicine

Faculty Joining the Department of Medicine Between 9/1/2019 & 2/29/2020



Kerry Schaffer, MD
Assistant Professor

Division of Hematology/Oncology

Previous Institution: University of Rochester Medical Center

Previous Role/Title: Chief Academic Fellow for Hematology/Oncology

Specialty: Medical Oncology

Education/Training: M.D. - University of Virginia School of Medicine

Hometown: Santa Barbara, CA

Interests/Achievements: Dr. Schaffer specializes in treating genitourinary cancers. Recognizing that genetics is playing an increasingly important role in cancer diagnosis and treatment, Dr. Schaffer has developed a special interest and expertise in prostate cancer genetics, familial cancer syndromes, and precision therapy. Her research has focused on the use of genetic testing in prostate cancer. Dr. Schaffer's ultimate goal is to improve outcomes in prostate cancer through increased access to genetic testing and new therapies. Outside of her work life, Dr. Schaffer enjoys music, being outdoors, and spending time with her husband and kids.



Anil Trindade, MD
Assistant Professor

**Division of Allergy, Pulmonary, and
Critical Care Medicine**

Previous Institution: Harvard Medical School

Previous Role/Title: Instructor in Medicine

Specialty: Lung Transplant

Education/Training: M.D. - Duke University School of Medicine

Hometown: Princeton Junction, NJ

Interests/Achievements: Dr. Anil Trindade is Assistant Professor of Medicine and Associate Medical Director for Lung Transplant at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. He received his MD degree from Duke University and went on to complete his residency at Johns Hopkins University. Following residency, he completed fellowship training in pulmonary and critical care medicine at Harvard Medical School. During this period, he worked under the mentorship of prominent Harvard professor, Dr. Elizabeth Henske, Director of the Center for LAM Research and Clinical Care and Co-Director of the Pulmonary Genetics Center. Dr. Trindade was appointed to the Harvard Medical School faculty in 2012, rejoining in 2017 after serving in private practice and at Tufts University and Columbia. After returning to Harvard, he was appointed Associate Medical Director of the Lung Transplant Program at Brigham and Women's Hospital. Dr. Trindade has a deep and broad knowledge of pulmonary and critical care medicine and lung transplantation. His record as a clinician reflects numerous clinical innovations, all designed for quality improvement in patient care. At Harvard he began a deliberate effort to improve patient outcomes, developing care algorithms to an area of pulmonary medicine historically lacking any evidence-based approaches. His dedication to seeking answers and to question existing care paradigms allowed the development of multiple care "pathways," which lead to significant standardization and improvement of care. Dr. Trindade has extensive experience in classroom teaching, clinical supervision, and teaching of residents and fellows. He has received honors and awards steadily throughout his academic career, including Phi Beta Kappa, an Honors' Thesis from Duke, an ATS travel award, and a recognition for Excellence in Tutoring from Harvard Medical School.

Faculty Joining the Department of Medicine Between 9/1/2019 & 2/29/2020



Rachel Wolf, MD

Assistant Professor

**Division of General Internal
Medicine and Public Health**

Previous Institution: University of Pittsburgh Medical Center

Previous Role/Title: Resident Physician

Specialty: Internal Medicine and Pediatrics

Education/Training: M.D. - Vanderbilt University School of Medicine

Hometown: Pelham, NY

Interests/Achievements: Dr. Wolf joined the Vanderbilt Internal Medicine-Pediatrics faculty with the goal of providing comprehensive, high-quality primary care to patients of all ages. After growing up in New York, she received her BA from Dartmouth College, completed medical school at Vanderbilt, and did her residency at UPMC in Pittsburgh, PA. In residency, she focused on community healthcare and has been interested in exploring the role of addiction in the mother/baby relationship. She met her husband while in medical school at Vanderbilt, and they have two wonderful children. In her spare time, she enjoys ice skating, running, and spending time with family.



Hong Yuen Wong, PhD

Research Assistant Professor

Division of Hematology/Oncology

Previous Institution: Johns Hopkins School of Medicine

Previous Role/Title: Research Scientist

Specialty: Cancer Translational Research

Education/Training: Ph.D. - Johns Hopkins University

Hometown: Singapore

Interests/Achievements: Dr. Wong is a cancer genetics scientist with particular interest and experience in next generation sequencing and digital droplet PCR for early detection of cancer. Dr. Wong has studied the genetics of male breast cancer and molecular testing of measurable residual disease in acute myeloid leukemia.

Faculty Joining the Department of Medicine Between 9/1/2019 & 2/29/2020

Previous Institution: Daichi Sankyo Co., Ltd.

Previous Role/Title: Senior Scientist

Specialty: Pharmacology, Cell Biology, Molecular Biology

Education/Training: Ph.D. - Nagoya University

Hometown: Tokyo, Japan

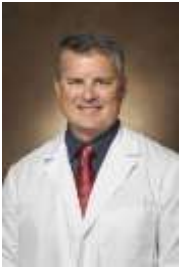
Interests/Achievements: In the field of nephrology research, several important questions have not been answered. Among them, Dr. Yamaguchi is particularly interested in the mechanism of renal anemia and renal protective potential of hypoxia-inducible factors (HIFs). Anemia is a common symptom in patients with end-stage chronic kidney disease (CKD) whose serum erythropoietin (EPO) level is not high enough for the normal erythropoiesis. Recent studies have revealed that renal EPO-producing cells still maintain EPO-producing activity even in late-stage CKD patients. Therefore, some other unknown events are also involved in the suppression of normal erythropoiesis. By precisely analyzing gene expression and signal transduction in individual cells in healthy and damaged kidneys, Dr. Yamaguchi believes he will have a more complete picture of renal anemia.

Kyoji Yamaguchi, PhD

Research Assistant Professor

**Division of Nephrology and
Hypertension**

Exposure to hypoxia has been reported to suppress disease progression or to induce tissue repair in some mouse models. However, continuous and high-level induction of HIF may induce detrimental effects as shown in a mouse model of pulmonary hypertension. Dr. Yamaguchi's primary goal is to identify optimal conditions under which hypoxia response maximizes the beneficial effects, leading to the discovery of novel therapeutic strategies to treat kidney diseases. His experience of drug discovery and development in pharmaceutical companies is key in conducting these studies.



Kevin Young, MD

**Assistant Professor of Clinical
Medicine**

**Division of Cardiovascular
Medicine**

Previous Institution: St. Thomas Heart Franklin

Previous Role/Title: Invasive Cardiologist

Specialty: Cardiology

Education/Training: M.D. - Meharry Medical College

Hometown: Nashville, TN

Interests/Achievements: Dr. Young is a clinical cardiologist committed to providing high-quality, state-of-the-art cardiac care to his patients with a focus on primary prevention, as well as ongoing care for those with ischemic heart disease, congestive heart failure, valvular heart disease, and arrhythmias.

Faculty Joining the Department of Medicine Between 9/1/2019 & 2/29/2020

Previous Institution: Vanderbilt School of Nursing

Previous Role/Title: Instructor in Nursing

Specialty: Acute Care Nursing-Adult and Gerontology

Education/Training: D.N.P. - Vanderbilt University School of Medicine

M.S.N. - University of California

Hometown: Nashville, TN

Interests/Achievements:

Brooke Bailey, DNP, MSN

Assistant in Medicine

**Division of Allergy, Pulmonary, and
Critical Care Medicine**

Previous Institution: Private Practice

Previous Role/Title: Nurse Psychotherapist

Specialty: Professional Health

Education/Training: M.S. - Vanderbilt University

Hometown: East Lansing, MI

Interests/Achievements:

Caroline Cone, MSN

Assistant in Medicine

**Division of General Internal
Medicine and Public Health**

Faculty Joining the Department of Medicine Between 9/1/2019 & 2/29/2020

Previous Institution: Vanerbilt University Medical Center

Previous Role/Title: LifeFlight Nurse

Specialty: Acute Care and Emergency Medicine

Education/Training: M.S.N. - Vanderbilt University School of Nursing

Hometown: Hendersonville, TN

Interests/Achievements: Daniel J. Ford, MSN, RN, joins the department faculty as Assistant in Medicine. He functions as a nurse practitioner on the MICU critical care team. Mr. Ford joined VUMC's LifeFlight program as a flight nurse in August of 2014 and served in that position for five years. His previous experience has been as a staff nurse or travel nurse in Florida, Virginia, and (briefly) Tennessee. Daniel Ford received his baccalaureate degree in nursing from the University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida, in July of 2007, at which time he became a registered nurse. From that time until he entered the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing in August of 2016, he acquired licensure and certification important to his profession, including advanced cardiovascular life support, pediatric advanced life support, trauma nursing core training, emergency nurse certification, certification as a critical care registered nurse, neonatal resuscitation training, flight nurse certification, and emergency medical technician training. Mr. Ford graduated from Vanderbilt University School of Nursing in August of 2019, earning an MS. degree in nursing, with an adult-gerontology acute care practitioner and intensivist focus. He became credentialed by the American Nurses Credentialing Center as an Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner upon graduation. Dan is a member of the Emergency Nurses Association, the American Association of Critical Care Nurses, the Air and Surface Transport Nurses Association, and the American Association of Nurse Practitioners. He is also a member of Vanderbilt's Iota Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, an international honor society.

Daniel Ford, MSN

Assistant in Medicine

**Division of Allergy, Pulmonary, and
Critical Care Medicine**