Integrating Geriatrics into the Specialties of Internal Medicine: *Moving Forward from Awareness to Action*

Pepper Centers Meeting
April 24, 2007
Introduction

• Project Leadership:
  – Kevin P. High, MD, Principal Investigator
  – Jeffrey B. Halter, MD, Co-Principal Investigator
  – Kenneth Schmader, MD, Co-Investigator

• Based on the original Integrating Geriatrics project led by William R. Hazzard, MD

• Funded by a generous four-year, $2.6 million grant from the John A. Hartford Foundation
Goals for Integrating Geriatrics Project

- Increase specialty society interest in geriatrics
- Provide a model of cross-NIH Institute collaboration in aging research
- Broaden engagement of internal medicine specialty organizations with geriatrics topics
- Enhance interaction of American Geriatrics Society with specialty organizations
Overview of Initiative Project Components

Three main initiatives of the Integrating Geriatrics Project

- Expansion of research efforts through NIH meetings
- Development of special interest groups within specialty societies
- Professional development of T. Franklin Williams Scholars
Participants:

- Representatives of ASP and the American Geriatrics Society (AGS)
- National Institute on Aging (NIA) extramural program leaders
- Members of internal medicine specialty societies
- Specialty oriented NIH Institute extramural program leaders
Initiative 1: NIH Workshops

• Methods:
  – Two day workshops focused on specific geriatrics research questions linked to the specialty
  – Successful pilot with the American Society of Hematology (ASH), National Cancer Institute (NCI), NIA, AGS, and ASP in 2005 and 2006
    • Resulted in two national symposia and 2 NIH RFAs
Initiative 1: NIH Workshops

• Methods:
  – Three targeted specialties
    • Infectious Diseases
    • Nephrology
    • Pulmonary Medicine
  – Three workshops per specialty
Initiative 1: NIH Workshops

HIV and Aging Planning Committee

**IDSA / HIVMA**
- Edward Janoff, MD
- Daniel Kuritzkes, MD
- Rita Effros, PhD
- Kelly Gebo, MD
- Amy C. Justice, MD
- Courtney Fletcher, PharmD

**NIH**
- Susan G. Nayfield, MD (NIA)
- Susan F. Plaeger, PhD (NIAID)
- Robin Huebner, PhD (NIAID)
Initiative 1: NIH Workshops
Initiative 1: NIH Workshops

• Anticipated Outcomes
  – Published manuscript on the meeting topic
  – Symposium at the annual meeting of the relevant specialty society

• Potential Outcomes
  – Federally funded initiative for research on the topic or related topics
  – Future expansion of the integrating geriatrics effort to additional specialties
Initiative 2: Development of Geriatrics Related Special Interest Groups

**Goals**

- Create and support geriatrics-focused special interest groups in each of 11 specialty societies
- Refine specialty clinical guidelines to include recommendations for older adults
- Define clinical competencies for care of elderly patients
- Enhance geriatric content available in journals, CME, and MOC
Initiative 2: Special Interest Groups

• Methods:
  – Create special interest groups (SIG) by leveraging existing Williams Scholars, their mentors, and participants in geriatrics educational activities
  – Use grassroots approach to build SIGs in the specialty societies
  – Provide funds from an Atlantic Philanthropies grant to augment clinical guidelines with geriatrics content
  – Fund five special geriatrics projects each year from the specialty societies for $15,000 to $25,000 per project
• T. Franklin Williams Scholars Program:
  – Provides two to four year awards of $50,000 to $75,000 each year for junior internal medicine specialty faculty
  – Partnership of ASP with 12 specialty societies
  – 40 scholar awards have been given to date
  – 49 new awards to be funded through 2010
• Goals:
  – Foster the intra- and inter-institutional growth and networking of the Williams Scholars through:
    • Holding two Williams Scholars alumni meetings between 2007 and 2010
    • Supporting a visiting professor program for the 2007-2010 scholars
Initiative 3: Williams Scholars

- Anticipated Outcomes:
  - Two highly successful interactive meetings of the existing Williams Scholars
  - Nearly 50 visits from senior leaders to the institutions of Williams Scholars, providing an opportunity for training and mentorship
  - Foster long term communication between Williams Scholars and the visiting professors
Initiative 2: Development of Geriatrics Related Special Interest Groups

• Spring 2007:
  – Evaluate existing special interest groups and task forces within specialty societies
  – Identify interested society members who can begin the application process for a special interest group within each society
  – Lona Mody, MD, and Keith S. Kaye, MD, to lead first meeting of internal medicine specialty section at AGS annual meeting

• Summer/Fall 2007:
  – Begin SIG development process
  – Begin clinical guideline augmentation

• 2008:
  – ASP first annual RFP for special projects in geriatrics among the specialty societies
  – Complete revision of targeted clinical guidelines
Initiative 2: Special Interest Groups

- Anticipated Outcomes:
  - Geriatrics special interest group infrastructure existing in all targeted specialty societies
  - Augmentation of 40 clinical guidelines to include geriatrics content
  - Funding of up to 15 projects through ASP issued RFPs
  - Increase in geriatrics-related content published in specialty society journals and inclusion in CME and MOC materials