Our Internal Medicine Residency Program has the infrastructure needed to develop our residents into outstanding clinicians. Our hospital has 314 acute-care beds with more than 16,000 inpatient admissions annually. Our Emergency Departments see about 66,000 visits each year between the two campuses. A new freestanding ED will also open near the Auburn University campus this spring, operated by East Alabama Health.

We also serve an expanding percentage of the population in the surrounding nine counties. This gives each resident a broad base of diverse clinical experiences in the inpatient and outpatient settings. Our curriculum gives outstanding clinical experiences, but we also commit to developing our residents’ team leadership skills, which we believe are vital in the delivery of team-based health care.
Dear colleagues and staff,

It is an exciting time for our new Internal Medicine Residency Program! We have completed 99 interviews for our inaugural class, and will find out in mid-March with whom we “matched.”

We are now focusing on finalizing plans for intern schedules, assigning noon conference lectures to be given as part of our didactic curriculum, making plans for the resident continuity clinic (more to come in a later newsletter), and putting together the many other pieces needed to make this experience a great one for our new interns!

In this issue, you will meet the excellent team of core faculty we have assembled who will be attending on our inpatient teaching service and assisting with morning report, noon conferences, continuity clinic supervision, and ACGME-required committee work.

As you know, we have asked some of you to serve as subspecialty coordinators, and we will begin a series of highlighting those physicians in this newsletter. Others of you have agreed to serve as volunteer faculty for rotations or have agreed to help with lectures. As you can imagine, we will need everyone’s help! I have spoken personally with many of you, and some of you were a part of our informational meeting last year. However, if I have not yet been in contact with you and you are interested in helping with the program, please email me so that I can follow up with you and take advantage of all the varied abilities and strengths that our medical staff has to offer. There will also be opportunities in May to receive more “formal” training regarding evaluations, billing, etc.

Be sure to check out our residency program video on eamc.org —it will excite you about the new things in store!

With thanks and anticipation,

Steven Presley, M.D., MMM
IM Residency Program Director

PROGRAM TIMELINE

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<tr>
<th>APRIL/MAY</th>
<th>MAY</th>
<th>JULY 1</th>
<th>FEBRUARY 2022</th>
<th>JULY 2022</th>
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<tr>
<td>Onboarding new residents (through Credentialing and HR)</td>
<td>Faculty (core, volunteer, and subspecialty coordinators) development training</td>
<td>First day of clinical rotations for residents</td>
<td>Poster presentations and &quot;Research Week&quot;</td>
<td>First day of clinical rotations for residents</td>
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<td>MARCH 19 Match Day</td>
<td>April/May Finalizing curriculum planning and creating resident schedules</td>
<td>June 21-25 Resident orientation (including ACLS recertification and retreat activities)</td>
<td>October 2021 Interviews for 2022-2023 class begin</td>
<td>March 2022 Match Day</td>
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<td>October 2022 Resident retreat</td>
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Nathan T. Douthit, M.D.

Nathan T. Douthit, M.D. is an internal medicine hospitalist, and is practicing at both of our hospital campuses. Dr. Douthit earned his medical degree from The Medical School for International Health at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Beersheba, Israel, and completed his internal medicine residency at Brookwood Baptist Health in Birmingham, where he was chief resident.

Dr. Douthit is originally from Huntsville, Ala. Since earning his undergraduate degree from Auburn University, Dr. Douthit and his family have wanted to return to the Auburn/Opelika area. He has a deep love for the east Alabama community, and is enjoying giving back in his role at EAH. He chose to pursue a career in internal medicine specifically because there is always opportunity to learn more. He enjoys being an ally and advocate for his patients and working with them to make good health an attainable goal.

Dr. Douthit and his wife, Kate, have four children. In his spare time, Dr. Douthit enjoys reading anything from medical journals to classic and fiction, as well as writing. He also enjoys spending time with his four sons, eating Ben & Jerry’s ice cream with his wife, and spending time working on his land in Waverly, Ala. Dr. Douthit is board certified in internal medicine.

W. Michael Hall, M.D

W. Michael Hall, M.D. is a hospitalist. Dr. Hall earned his medical degree at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) and completed his residency at Carraway Methodist Medical Center. He is board certified in internal medicine.

His decision to pursue a career in internal medicine and resident education stems from his passion for teaching at the bedside. He also enjoys the combination of challenging diagnoses and bedside patient care.

Dr. Hall was on the admissions committee at UAB for 22 years and was also an assistant clinical professor of internal medicine at the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM). In 2016, he co-authored research titled “Palliative Care in the Rural Setting.”

Dr. Hall is originally from Cullman, Ala.

He and his wife, Robin Tate Hall, M.D., have two adult children and a golden retriever. In his spare time, he enjoys sitting on the porch and reading at the lake, traveling, and serving others. Every two years, he goes to Africa on a mission trip, and has also traveled to Burma, Thailand, Cuba and India. He and his wife also mentor married couples at their church.
Rekha Lall, M.D.

Dr. Lall is a board-certified internist. She is a graduate of Rohtak Medical School in India with a bachelor of science in medicine and surgery, graduating summa cum laude. She specializes in internal medicine and served as chief resident at St. Joseph Hospital in Chicago, Ill. She is also a Fellow of the American College of Physicians.

After her residency, Dr. Lall was an instructor of clinical medicine at St. Joseph’s hospital with Northwestern University Medical School and the teaching attending physician for the Laboure Medical Clinic. She joined East Alabama Health in 2002. Dr. Lall is married and the mother of two children.

Christopher Old, M.D., FACP

Christopher W. Old, M.D., FACP is an internal medicine physician specializing in nephrology. Dr. Old earned his medical degree from The University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) where he graduated cum laude. He completed his fellowship at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and his residency at UAB Hospital and Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Dr. Old is board certified in internal medicine and nephrology. Prior to joining EAH, he served as resident faculty at Brookwood Baptist Health and worked as a nephrologist in Birmingham, Ala. Dr. Old has received several teaching awards for his work.

Dr. Old decided to pursue a career in internal medicine as well as resident education because he enjoys teaching medical students and residents. He chose to join the team at East Alabama Health to be part of the new Internal Medicine Residency Program.

Originally from Atlanta, Dr. Old and his wife, Debbie, have five children, five grandchildren, and one cat named Summer. In his spare time, he enjoys fly fishing, sporting clays, reading, and gardening.
One of the things that excites me about East Alabama Health having an internal medicine residency program is the opportunity to share the things that I have learned in my training and clinical experience with the next generation of physicians.

EAH has grown a lot since its founding as Lee County hospital to now serving all of east Alabama. The only way we will be able to serve this continuously expanding community is by training new physicians. This benefits us all, as one of the best ways to learn is to teach, and we are all lifelong learners in this field.

C. Dyer Diskin, M.D.

The advantages of an internal medicine residency program at East Alabama Health are endless. We, as physicians, have the opportunity and responsibility to teach the upcoming generations of physicians, as well as continuing education for ourselves on the latest and greatest.

The community is growing, and patients need access to care; this can ultimately become a successful recruiting tool. Whether our residents decide to pursue additional training or settle down in the Auburn-Opelika area, we hope our mark on their clinical experience in residency brings them back here.

David G. Holmes, M.D.

An internal medicine residency program in the Auburn/Opelika area is a huge addition to the medical landscape of the region. It allows an on-site training venue for our VCOM students at Auburn University and will open up research possibilities that will connect bench/lab work to clinical studies. It connects students to the vast array of learning opportunities available in the East Alabama Health system to prepare them for clinical practices. It also benefits our existing staff by helping them stay updated on current treatments and technologies. This leads to an Esprit de Corps that is exciting to be part of.

This program will benefit the community through better trained residents who very likely will remain in our area of service, as seventy percent of residents tend to establish a practice within a one hour drive of their residency site. I really cannot think of any negative aspect of this pursuit and hope to be an integral part of it in the future.

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Steven D. Presley, M.D.
IM Residency Program Director

Steven D. Presley, M.D. specializes in internal medicine and is a hospitalist at EAMC. He is a graduate of Auburn University. Dr. Presley earned his medical degree from the University of Alabama at Birmingham and completed his residency at the Baptist Health System in Birmingham. He earned his master of medical management from Carnegie Mellon University.

Dr. Presley currently serves as VCOM Auburn director of medical student education (DSME) for clinical year students. He has completed multiple overseas medical mission trips as well as serving as a physician at Camp Seale Harris for diabetic children.

Dr. Presley chose to pursue a career in internal medicine because he enjoys the relationship with patients as their primary care giver. Dr. Presley has been married to his wife, Leanne, for 23 years. They have two children, Ben and Annabeth. Dr. Presley has skydived over the Atlantic Ocean and some of his other hobbies include hiking, reading, traveling and watching Auburn University sports.

William L. Golden, M.D.
Designated Institutional Official

Dr. William Golden attended medical school at The University of Alabama at Birmingham and joined Lee OB/GYN in 1987 after completing his residency. Dr. Golden is the robotics director at EAMC and former Chief of Staff at EAMC. He is currently serving as Chief Medical Officer at EAMC.

SUPPORT STAFF

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Program Director

Katlyn Roland
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Pam Prince
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