MATCH DAY

- We matched with 10 residents listed above, including six DOs and four MDs.
- There are seven medical schools represented from UAB, ACOM, VCOM, Kansas City COM, Incarnate Word SOM, East Carolina, and Puerto Rico.
- There were 1,392 applicants in total, of which 51 were US MD applicants and 159 were US DO applicants. We interviewed 99 students. This year, all of the interviews were virtual due to COVID-19 restrictions.
The First Year curriculum involves the following:

- 5 months: Internal Medicine Inpatient Teaching
- 1 month: Ambulatory Medicine Clinic
- 1 month: IM or SNF/Geriatric
- 1 month: Neurology (inpatient)
- 1 month: Elective
- 1 month: Subspecialty (Cardiology, Nephrology, Endocrinology etc.)
- 1 month: Pulmonary or Critical Care
- 2 weeks: Emergency Room
- 2 weeks: Procedural Skills
The residency house will be located in the Nagendran House. This location will have the offices of Dr. Presley, Dr. Douthit, Dr. Old, Dr. Hall, and Pam Prince. There will also be a conference room, computer lab, and a break room. The call rooms will be located on first floor next to the medical staff services.
Dr. William L. Golden attended medical school at The University of Alabama at Birmingham and then joined East Alabama Health in 1987 as an OB/GYN. He currently serves as Chief Medical Officer, a position he has held since 2018.

A Message From The DIO:

I am excited about the establishment of the Internal Medicine Residency program at East Alabama Health!

When I joined the hospital administration four and a half years ago, this was a focus of mine, to try and push these efforts forward. Many others had been pursuing this goal before me and with the combined efforts of all, this goal will be realized this summer.

The number of medical/osteopathy school graduates across the state has gone up dramatically over the last 6 years, but the number of residency spots has not kept pace. This means that a higher percentage of Alabama medical/osteopathy students must travel outside our state to continue their training. This diminishes the odds of these physicians returning to our state.

We have a financially strong hospital and an excellent medical staff and faculty that will provide a great environment for the next step of medical training. The Auburn/Opelika community is an outstanding place to live for these recent graduates and will further enhance their experience. Our community is growing rapidly and the establishment of a residency program here is a logical next step. Our medical community responded effectively to the ongoing pandemic and reaffirmed to me that a residency program will do well in this environment, where excellence is the expected standard. Training the next generation of physicians is our ongoing responsibility. I am confident that all involved in this endeavor will embrace this responsibility and work together to provide an outstanding residency experience while delivering exceptional patient care.
Frequently Asked Questions about the Residency Program:

**Who is an Internal Medicine Resident?**

- A “resident” is a physician who has completed all four years of medical school and is in training for board certification.
- “Intern” is another term for a first-year resident. So, a resident in their first year is completing internship.
- The entire 3 years of Internal Medicine training is called “residency.”
- They may be referred to as PGY-1, PGY-2, and PGY-3 residents.

**How many residents will there be?**

This first year, we have accepted 10 new residents. We hope to continue with about 10 per year, so by the time our program is three years old, we will have 30 total residents in the program.

**Where will the residents be working?**

You’ll see our residents throughout the hospital! There will be a new “Internal Medicine Resident Team” admitting service (like the hospitalist service) who will admit unattached patients and provide their hospital care. On this service, the residents will serve as the primary physician with the Core Faculty attendings (Dr. Nathan Douthit, Dr. Mike Hall, Dr. Rekha Lall, Dr. Chris Old, and myself). In addition, residents will do sub-specialty rotations (like cardiology, nephrology, ER, heme-onc, and critical care for example). So, you will see them working alongside those physicians and helping to provide patient care.

**What is the difference between the residents and the VCOM Medical students?**

There is a difference: East Alabama Medical Center is a clinical site for the training of third and fourth year medical students. However, the Residency Program and the VCOM clinical program are two separate entities. The major difference is that residents are PHYSICIANS while those who are here from VCOM are merely third or fourth year medical STUDENTS.

**What are some easy ways we can tell the difference between a resident and a student, since it may take us a while to get to know everyone?**

- One easy way is by the length of the white coat. Student coats are only waist length, whereas resident white coat length is mid-thigh.
- Another is by the name tag. Students will wear their VCOM Student ID, whereas resident physicians will have an East Alabama Health badge with MD or DO credentials and the PGY year.
Frequently Asked Questions about the Residency Program:

Where will the “Resident headquarters” be?

The Nagendran House (see page 2 diagram). It will house Core Faculty, Program Coordinator, and will be the resident’s headquarters for meetings.

What are the benefits of this program to the residents and to our nurses?

There is a mutual benefit to our nurses and residents. Residents will learn to be better physicians. Residents will learn how important the nurse’s role is in patient care and how nurses can help them understand the processes involved with patient care. Nurses will gain experience in a teaching hospital setting and have more opportunity to communicate and learn from the residents. As health care professionals, we all have a professional responsibility to help others succeed so that we can better care for our patients and ourselves as potential patients in the future.

PROGRAM TIMELINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MARCH 19:</td>
<td>Match Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>APRIL/MAY:</td>
<td>Onboarding new residents (through Credentialing and HR)</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAY:</td>
<td>Faculty (core, volunteer, and subspecialty coordinators)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>development training</td>
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<tr>
<td>JUNE 21-25</td>
<td>Finalizing curriculum planning and creating resident schedules</td>
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<tr>
<td>JUNE 28-30</td>
<td>Resident orientation (including ACLS recertification and retreat activities)</td>
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<td>JULY 1:</td>
<td>First day of clinical rotations for residents</td>
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<tr>
<td>MARCH 2022:</td>
<td>Match Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>JULY 2022:</td>
<td>First day of clinical rotations for residents</td>
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<td>OCTOBER 2021:</td>
<td>Interviews for 2022-2023 class begin</td>
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<tr>
<td>APRIL 2022:</td>
<td>Poster presentations and &quot;Research Week&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>OCTOBER 2022:</td>
<td>Resident retreat</td>
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Meshia Wallace, M.D.

The benefits of an Internal Medicine Program at East Alabama Health are almost enumerable and definitely priceless. These young doctors will bring along with them an almost insatiable hunger for knowledge and a strong work ethic. This will help to solidify what we, as attendings, already know. And, even more importantly, send us all on a quest to learn more. This will undoubtedly have a positive effect on overall patient care. This will prove to improve overall care on even our most critically ill patients, such as those in the ICU.

Brandon Johnson, M.D.

There are so many benefits to having this residency program at East Alabama Medical Center! Hopefully, the residents will benefit from our knowledge and experience, but certainly the community will benefit from having more primary doctors (the residency Continuity Clinic) and our medical staff will be challenged to teach the residents. I enjoy teaching and having residents ask me hard questions – it challenges me to understand oncology better so I can instruct better. Hopefully training residents here will lead some of them to stay and provide excellent Internal Medicine care to our growing population.

Olivia Hull, M.D.

I think there will be multiple benefits to having an IM residency here at East Alabama Medical Center. Teaching the next generation of physicians is a great motivator for physicians that are out of training to stay up to date and keep up their skills. I also think bringing part of the academic medicine culture here to East Alabama Medical Center will be great. With the residency here, there will be many more conferences and meetings where staff physicians will be able to come together, share knowledge and learn.