

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE

University of Rochester School of Medicine & Dentistry

Highland Hospital

Newsletter of One of the Premier Family Medicine Departments in the United States

April 2016

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Highland Family Medicine Earns National Recognition for Patient-Centered Care

The National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) announced that Highland Family Medicine has been reaccredited as an NCQA Level 3 Certified Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) for using evidence-based, patient-centered processes that focus on highly coordinated care and long-term, participative relationships.

The NCQA Patient-Centered Medical Home is a model of primary care that combines teamwork and information technology to improve care, improve patients' experience of care and reduce costs. Medical homes foster ongoing partnerships between patients and their personal clinicians, instead of approaching care as the sum of episodic office visits. Each patient's care is overseen by clinician-led care teams that coordinate treatment across the health care system. Research shows that medical homes can lead to higher quality and lower costs, and can improve patient and provider reported experiences of care.



Dr. David Holub practices at Highland Family Medicine and Highland Hospital

"Earning NCQA Recognition shows that Highland Family Medicine has undergone a rigorous review of its capabilities and is committed to communication, coordination and providing access to care," said Cindy Becker, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Highland Hospital.

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Residency Program Has Banner Year

Match Day is an important day in medical schools across the country and this year was ground-breaking for Family Medicine at the University of



University of Rochester Department of Family Medicine Residents gather for a retreat.

of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry. A record number of 10 medical students matched in Family Medicine programs in schools across the country and the UR Department of Family Medicine residency program accepted 12 new interns.

The UR Department of Family Medicine residency program had one of the biggest interview seasons in the history of the program, with 116 applicants interviewed. The faculty spent a combined total of 232 hours interviewing

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Fast Facts about Class of 2019

- The class represents 10 different medical schools
- 8 women, 4 men
- 33% out of our top 20
- 75% out of our top 50
- 3 couples match (Dermatology, ENT, Emergency)
- 2 with strong interest in PALT, and listed as primary reason they applied to our program
- 4 with strong family ties to Rochester, all of whom say they plan to settle in Rochester after residency
- 2 are trilingual
- 2 DO, 10 MD
- 4 are from NYS medical schools



Thoughts FROM THE CHAIR

In New York State Medicaid is going through a major redesign called Design System Reform Incentive Program (DSRIP). This \$9 billion project through CMS is designed to transition Medicaid in our state from fee-for-service to value based payments over 5 years. The primary goal is to reduce avoidable Medicaid hospital admissions and emergency room visits by 25% during that time.

Each region of New York competed for funding to implement a series of projects designed to address primary health care, mental health and some of the social determinants of health. The Finger Lakes formed a consortium of over 600 providers, including the two major health care systems, UR Medicine and Rochester Regional Health System to address the health care needs of Medicaid patients in 13 counties between Syracuse and Buffalo and extending south to the Pennsylvania state line. This consortium, called the Finger Lakes Performing Provider System (FLPPS) will receive up to \$560 million dollars to implement 11 different projects.

The UR Department of Family Medicine and Highland Family Medicine, as one of the largest safety net practices in the Rochester region, is playing an active role in FLPPS. I serve on the Board of Directors and the Workforce Committee of FLPPS and many of our faculty are in other leadership roles.

We are participating in several of the DSRIP projects, including integration of behavioral health in primary care, care transitions, ED triage and the development of an Integrated Delivery System. With funds from DSRIP, we plan to expand our depression care management program (IMPACT), our behavioral health services, and add a substance abuse counselor on site. We now have a full time nurse care transition manager who follows all of our hospitalized patients during and after hospitalization, often making home visits, with the goal of reducing our readmissions. We are also expanding our Health Home Care Manager Program. These nurses do intensive care management for our most complex patients, especially those with chronic mental and physical disorders.

We recently recertified as a Patient-Centered Medical Home-Level 3 and are preparing to participate in value based, shared savings contracts with local insurers. We have also developed a collaborative relationship with the Highland Hospital and Strong Memorial Hospital Emergency Departments so patients who come to the ED and do not have a PCP can be "fast tracked" into our practice to avoid future unnecessary ED visits. A busy time for sure but each initiative will benefit the health of those we serve.

Best Wishes,
Thomas L. Campbell
Thomas L. Campbell, MD (1982)
William Rocktaschel Professor and Chair,
Department of Family Medicine

Dr. Fiscella Appointed to Dean's Professorship

Kevin Fiscella, MD, MPH, has been appointed to a Dean's Professorship in the Department of Family Medicine, announced by Mark Taubman, MD, URM CEO and Dean of the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry.



Kevin Fiscella, MD, MPH

A Dean's Professorship is the highest honor directly bestowed by the Dean to a faculty member. They are awarded to a select few distinguished faculty members who have made major research contributions and are accompanied by financial support to enhance their research activities.

A tenured professor of Family Medicine, Public Health Sciences, and Community Health, Dr. Fiscella's research career is focused on addressing disparities in health care, including patient-physician communication. He serves as associate director of the Center for Communication and Disparities Research and co-director for the Greater Rochester Practice-Based Research Network. He is also a member of the University of Rochester Population Health Interest Group, the Patient and Family Centered Care Committee, and serves on committees for the Finger Lakes Performing

Provider System and New York State DSRIP.

"Kevin's prolific body of research grows increasingly significant in efforts to ensure that racial and socioeconomic disparities are addressed in the redesign of our health care system," said Dr. Taubman. "Whether serving as a researcher, clinician or educator, Kevin is a role model whose contributions will have a lasting influence on the shape of patient-physician communication and the vital role it plays in caring for the diverse needs of our population."

Dr. Fiscella's research centers on practical approaches for addressing health care disparities including system redesign. His work, aimed at implementing strategies and interventions to improve care and empower patients across socioeconomic lines, has earned major funding from organizations such as the AHRQ, American Cancer Society, CDC, National Cancer Institute, National Heart Lung and Blood Institute, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. In addition, Dr. Fiscella's research is documented in more than 200 papers published in peer-reviewed journals.

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Drs. Fiscella and Barnett Receive Rochester Area Task Force on AIDS Awards

The Rochester Area Task Force on AIDS (RATFA) honored two URM faculty for their outstanding service to the community. Kevin Fiscella, MD, MPH received the annual HIV/AIDS Clinical Provider Award, and Steve Barnett, MD received the 2015 Community Advocate Award. Both are faculty in the Department of Family Medicine.

Dr. Barnett is program director of the National Center for Deaf Health Research, which was an integral part of the Community Advocate Award. The NCDHR has been raising awareness in the deaf community by collecting

HIV surveillance data from surveys to deaf people, and by working with the NYS Department of Health AIDS Institute to reach the deaf community.



Steve Barnett, MD

Dr. Fiscella has been working with HIV patients at the Anthony Jordan Health Center since 1992. Both Drs. Fiscella and Barnett emphasized that they represent a large, diverse, committed group of URM staff and faculty who have been serving the HIV/AIDS community for several years.



Alumni Spotlight Jennette Hathorn, DO



Alumnus Dr. Jen Hathorn (right) is working at a rural hospital in Nigeria.

Working with an organization called World Medical Missions, Dr. Jennette Hathorn is starting her second year at a small, rural hospital in Nigeria practicing the full scope of medicine, including tropical medicine, chronic illness, cancer, trauma, and obstetrical care. Dr. Hathorn rotates with two other attendings who cover the whole hospital (including pediatrics, male ward/female ward/ Emergency Department/Labor & Delivery) and is teaching and mentoring five Nigerian family medicine residents in pediatric and medicine rotations.

“Even before medical school I felt called to medical missions,” said Dr. Hathorn, who was a nurse prior to becoming a doctor. “I think most doctors feel drawn to certain types of need and this ultimately pushes us into one area of care over another. For me, that draw was medically un-reached or under-reached people in developing countries.”

A graduate of SUNY Upstate Medical Center with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Dr. Hathorn earned her Doctor of Medicine degree at the University of New England and then completed her residency at the University of Rochester Department of Family Medicine Residency program.

Dr. Hathorn remembers her fellow residents as the “best part of residency,” as well as the program’s emphasis on counseling and the psychosocial aspect of being a family doctor. “Knowing how to treat a person holistically in the context of their family is a universal principle and one that I have used over and over even here in Nigeria,” she said.



Department of Family Medicine’s Dr. Kevin Kless is shown with school children of Honduras. Each spring and fall groups of faculty, residents, medical students and community volunteers travel to San Jose San Marcos de la Sierra in the Southwestern state of Intibuca, Honduras. The Department of Family Medicine partners with an NGO called Shoulder to Shoulder.

Your gifts help support the efforts to help the people of this impoverished community. Please visit www.urmc.rochester.edu/family-medicine/global-health/support-us.cfm where an online donation can be made.

Matt Devine, DO Honored As Member of RBJ Forty Under 40

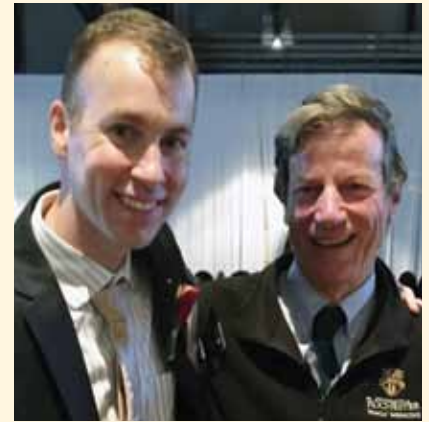
Congratulations to Mathew Devine, DO for being recognized in the Rochester Business Journal’s Forty Under 40 list. Each year the RBJ honors a group of young leaders who are making an impressive impact in our community.

Dr. Devine, 38, has been an integral part of the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Rochester and Highland Family Medicine since he completed his residency in 2005. “Since then Dr. Devine has embraced every leadership opportunity that has been entrusted to him and has grown to be one of the most respected, talented and thoughtful physician leaders in our community,” said Steven I. Goldstein, President/CEO, Strong Memorial Hospital and Highland Hospital and Cindy Becker, Highland Vice President and Chief Operating Officer in nominating Dr. Devine.

For the past six years Dr. Devine has served as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Family Medicine and the Associate Medical Director of Highland Family Medicine, achieving both of these prestigious roles at a very young age.

Dr. Devine serves as Director of Quality for Highland Family Medicine and led the department’s efforts to be recertified by NCQA as a Patient-Centered Medical Home. He is known as a respected physician, inspirational teacher and dedicated community leader.

An active member of the Rochester American Diabetes Association (ADA) Board, Dr. Devine seizes every opportunity he can to support the organization and serves on the Advocacy subcommittee, Healthcare subcommittee and Tour de Cure Executive Committee. Dr. Devine was an active member of the Regional Quality Improvement Initiative for Diabetes Care in Monroe County funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. His work helped physicians gain more knowledge and have access to more tools to help manage patients with diabetes and help others to avoid it.



Top: Dr. Matt Devine is congratulated by Dr. Tom Campbell.

Bottom: Colleagues of Dr. Devine including: Mindy Cirasuolo and Ginger Agnello, FNP (seated) and Bill Gutschow, Jamie Bishop and Mike Mendoza, MD (standing) celebrated with Dr. Devine.



Resident Spotlight



Amber Robins, MD

"I am humbled to be part of this residency program that is known across the country for producing excellent family medicine physicians and national leaders in medicine," said Amber Robins, MD.

Dr. Robins, in her second year of residency, holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Xavier University of Louisiana and received her medical degree from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry.

At a young age Dr. Robins was exposed to seeing the healing effects of medicine on her father, grandmother, and community. "I have found that all of these elements make up the core of me and the heart of Family Medicine," she said. "I strongly believe that Family Medicine chose me."

Dr. Robins has served as a principal investigator for minority medical student research, a medical student representative to the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology District II, Upstate New York and as a free clinic director at a church in Wilkes-Barre, PA. She is enjoying the support that the Highland Family Medicine Residency program has put towards her interests in health communication and journalism. Dr. Robins has done several medical segments for the local news, written several magazine articles, and has published an article in NYSAFP. "Amber took part in Leadership training very early and the effects show in her desire and demonstrated skill as a leader," said Susan McDaniel, PhD, Associate Chair, Department of Family Medicine.

In her downtime, Dr. Robins enjoys being with her friends and family and also enjoys singing, playing the piano, and traveling. Dr. Robins is also pursuing an MBA from Louisiana State University and in the future sees herself focusing in two specific areas: health communication and diversity in medicine. "By being a health communicator, my goal is to continue to contribute to news and magazine outlets as a way to educate the community on important health issues," she said. "As an ambassador for diversity in medicine, I hope to continue encouraging minorities to pursue careers in healthcare. In addition, I would like to one day be a support system for minority medical students in the role of Dean of Diversity for a medical school."

Innovative Nurse Practitioner Residency Program To Begin at Highland Family Medicine

The University of Rochester Nurse Practitioner Residency Program at Highland Family Medicine will begin this June. The program, one of the first in the country, is funded by a grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), an agency of the Department of Health and Human Services.

The NP residency program is a rigorous one-year training program, emphasizing outpatient comprehensive primary care, team-base collaboration, interprofessional education, integration of behavioral health and practice. The job posting is now available at highland.urmc.edu/NPResidency.

"The program will provide Family Nurse Practitioner graduates transitioning into primary care with additional skills training required to meet the needs of culturally diverse and clinically complex patients," said Lynne Massaro, DNP, RN, ANP-BC, FNP, Assistant Professor of Clinical Nursing, University of Rochester School of Nursing, who is serving as program director.

Highland Family Medicine has already developed a Bridge to Practice program for the continuing education of nurse practitioners. The nine month program supports newly graduated nurse practitioners as they transition into practice at Highland Family Medicine. This program is co-directed by Mel Callan, FNP and Ginger Agnello, FNP.



Heather Lee, Michael Ockrin, Andrea Cottrell, Nadine Grove are in Bridge to Practice Program



Lynne Massaro, DNP, RN, ANP-BC, FNP

Dr. Fiscella Appointed, continued from page 2

"I feel genuinely humbled to receive this Dean's Professorship and am deeply appreciative of Dr. Taubman's and Dr. Campbell's support," said Dr. Fiscella. "My research would not be possible if not for the intellectually rich and exceptionally collaborative environment that exists at University of Rochester Medical Center." Thomas L. Campbell, MD is William Rocktaschel Chair in Family Medicine.

Dr. Fiscella has served on numerous national committees related to health care disparities, including two with the Institute of Medicine, a standing NIH study section, and the PCORI Disparities Advisory Committee. He has co-chaired an NQF expert panel on Risk Adjustment for Socioeconomic Status and serves on the NQF

Disparities Standing Committee.

His achievements have earned him accolades, including the Curtis Hames Award for Life Time Research in Family Medicine and Faculty Diversity Award for Mentoring minority investigators.

Dr. Fiscella received his bachelor's degree in psychology from Antioch College, his medical degree from the Medical College of Virginia, and his master's in public health at the University of Rochester. He completed a faculty development fellowship through the UR Department of Family Medicine, training in family therapy through the Department of Psychiatry. He joined the faculty in 1996.

Colleen Fogarty, MD, MSc Recognized with RBJ Health Care Achievement Award

Colleen Fogarty, MD, MSc, Associate Professor, Department of Family Medicine, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry is a recipient of the Rochester Business Journal Health Care Achievement Award in the Physician category. Dr. Fogarty practices full spectrum care for children and adults at the Jordan Health/Brown Square community health center in Rochester and works with fellows and residents at the University of Rochester/Highland Hospital Department of Family Medicine, where she serves as the Director of the Faculty Development Fellowship and Assistant Residency Director.



Colleen Fogarty, MD, MSc

Dr. Fogarty was nominated by her colleagues at Jordan Health including Laurie Donohue, MD, Chief Medical Officer who has known Dr. Fogarty for 23 years. "From our early training days as family physicians, I recognized that Dr. Fogarty was and continues to be all that it means to be a family doctor," said Dr. Donohue. "Dr. Fogarty has dedicated her medical career to caring for families who deal daily with the struggles of poverty and violence. Her compassionate approach to medical care encourages individuals and families to work toward improved health. Dr. Fogarty brings the same passion to improving our community's health as she does to improving the health of the patients we serve. The Rochester community is fortunate to have such an outstanding physician."



Dr. Susan McDaniel, Dr. Colleen Fogarty and Dr. Tom Campbell at the RBJ Health Care Achievement Award luncheon.

Family Medicine Docs Take The Plunge

The Polar Plunge, that is! The Department of Family Medicine is traditionally represented in this annual event where more than 1,800 plungers representing over 220 teams participated in Rochester this year, raising over a quarter of a million dollars for Special Olympic athletes - the biggest such event in New York State again this year!

Participants included Kristin Koberstein, LMFT; Steve Schultz, MD; Matt Thomashefski, MD, and Bill Gutschow, Project Manager.

"Matt became the first resident in our program to plunge all three years," said Dr. Schultz. "It was the first Plunge for Kristin and Bill, and they picked a doozy!" The air temperature at the time of the Plunge was 3 degrees Fahrenheit, and the water temperature was 35 degrees.



Plungers include: Kristin Koberstein, LMFT; Steve Schultz, MD; Matt Thomashefski, MD, and Bill Gutschow, Project Manager

National Recognition,

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"NCQA Patient-Centered Medical Home Recognition raises the bar in defining high-quality care by emphasizing access, health information technology and coordinated care focused on patients," said NCQA President Margaret E. O'Kane. "Recognition shows that Highland Family Medicine has the tools, systems and resources to provide its patients with the right care, at the right time."

Attaining this high level of recognition is truly a team effort according to Tom Campbell, MD, Chair, University of Rochester Medical Center Department of Family Medicine/Highland Family Medicine. "I am fortunate to work with a team where each member is focused on the highest quality care, totally dedicated to our patients and committed to the pursuit of excellence."

To earn recognition, which is valid for three years, Highland Family Medicine demonstrated the ability to meet the program's key elements, embodying characteristics of the medical home. NCQA standards aligned with the joint principles of the Patient-Centered Medical Home established with the American College of Physicians, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Osteopathic Association.

Residency Program,

continued from page 1

applicants who came from 38 allopathic schools, and 6 osteopathic schools across 9 states.

"There were 11 applicants from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry which is the most applicants from the university in my 13 years as Residency Program Director," said Stephen Schultz, MD.

"We are fortunate in that there are many reasons applicants seek us out: global health, political advocacy, psychosocial medicine, team-based care, and strong OB," he said. He adds that every year there is a cadre of applicants who grew up in Rochester, and want to move back home.

"The Primary Care Network of the University of Rochester Medical Center has been hiring our graduates in record numbers, even creating practices at resident request," he said. He names the recently opened Manhattan Square Family Medicine in Rochester which includes three former chief residents as a prime example.

Welcome



Bill Gutschow, Project Manager at Highland Family Medicine manages several programs including Depression Care Management, Health Home Care Management, DSRIP initiatives, Social Work, grants and others. He has a bachelor's degree from St. John Fisher College and is currently enrolled in the Masters of Health Administration at Roberts Wesleyan College.



Katherine Rizzone, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor of Orthopaedics and Pediatrics is teaching and mentoring Family Medicine residents in clinic. Dr. Rizzone attended medical school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and completed her residency in Medicine-Pediatrics, as well as a Sports Fellowship and received her MPH from Vanderbilt University.



Santina M. Tu is the Residency Administrator at Highland Family Medicine and is responsible for residency regulations and program coordination. She is completing her Bachelor of Science in Community Health and Human Services degree at Empire State College. She has been part of the University of Rochester healthcare system since 1997.

In Memoriam

Susan J. Childs, MD

Department of Family Medicine alumnus Susan J. Childs passed away in November 2015 in Maine. She is survived by her husband, John Salvato and three children. She cared for patients and delivered hundreds of babies as a family physician in a rural community.

"I want to express my condolences to all who knew and loved Sue," said Ron Epstein, MD. "She and I were in a group of 12 residents who trained together in the 1980's and her spirit and good humor kept us all going in the darkest moments. She was always an exemplary doctor and dedicated colleague and friend. Even after not having seen her for several years, the memory of her spirit lives with all of us here in Rochester."



Congratulations



Mel Callan, FNP has been named Nurse Practitioner of the Year by the Nurse Practitioner Association of Greater Rochester. The award is given to a member of the Nurse Practitioner Association of New York State who contributes to the advancement of nurse practitioners through excellence in clinical practice and meets specific criteria to promote community service, research and better healthcare.



Vivian Jiang, MD has been appointed to serve on the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) Commission on Health of the Public and Science (CHPS). Her appointment was recommended by the AAFP Commission on Education and confirmed by the Board of Directors. The mission of the AAFP is to improve the health of patients, families and communities by serving the needs of members with professionalism and creativity.



Amanda Pannu, MD has been appointed as the resident representative to the ACGME Family Medicine Review Committee (FM-RC). Amanda will represent family medicine residents throughout the entire country to the FM-RC for 2 years.



Celeste Song, MD, MS, Senior Instructor, University of Rochester Department of Family Medicine, will become the director later this year of the Medical Education Pathway, a longitudinal elective for medical students who want to incorporate teaching and education into their future careers. Dr. Song and Barbara Davis, MD, Department of Neuroscience currently serve as co-directors.

We Want to Hear from You!

Do you have any news to share with alumni? Any stories you would like to see or programs you would like to find out more about? If so please contact us as fmnewsletter@urmc.rochester.edu

Faculty Accomplishments

Selected Publications

Selected publications dated July 1 - November 30, 2015

Ahmed-Sarwar N; Pierce D; Holub, DC. "COPD: optimizing treatment." *Journal of Family Practice*. 2015; 64(10):610-611, 617-623.

Brown E; Russell H. "Breastfeeding: the role of exclusive breastfeeding." *New York State Family Doctor*. 2015; 4(1):10-11.

Cameron RA; Mazer BL; Deluca JM; Mohile SG; **Epstein RM.** "In search of compassion: a new taxonomy of compassionate physician behaviours." *Health Expectations*. 2015; 18(5):1672-85.

Devine MJ; Hayes, M. "Integrative medicine." *Family Medicine: Principles and Practice*. Paulman P & Taylor RB. Meteor Springer, 2015.

Devine MJ; Mirabelli MH. "Tendinopathy." *5 Minute Clinical Consult*. Domino F. Lippincott, Williams, & Wilkins, 2015.

Epstein RM. "Making the ineffable visible." *Families, Systems & Health*. 2015; 33(3):280-2.

Epstein R. "Forward". *Mindful Medical Practice: Clinical Narratives and Therapeutic Insights*. Patricia Lynn Dobkin, 2015.

Fiscella K. "Distinguishing phases of biomedical research is critical to improving health outcomes." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*. 2015; 112(47):E6412.

Fiscella K. "The time for primary care teams has arrived: research is on the way." *Families, Systems & Health*. 2015; 33(3):175-81.

Fogarty CT. "At the grocery store next door." *Family Medicine*. 2015; 47(9):734-5.

Loomis L; Hartman S. "Breastfeeding and the role of formula." *New York State Family Doctor*. 2015; 4(1):12-13.

McKee MM; Winters PC; Sen A; Zazove P; **Fiscella K.** "Emergency department utilization among deaf American sign language users." *Disability and Health Journal*. 2015; 8(4):573-8.

Mirabelli MH; Devine MJ; Singh J; **Mendoza M.** "The preparticipation sports evaluation." *American Family Physician*. 2015; 92(5):371-6.

Rodenbach RA; Rodenbach KE; Tejani MA; **Epstein RM.** "Relationships between personal attitudes about death and communication with terminally ill patients: how oncology clinicians grapple with mortality." *Patient Education and Counseling*. 2015; Epub Oct 23.

Rosen-Carole C; **Hartman S.** "Breastfeeding promotion in the prenatal setting." *Breastfeeding Medicine*. 2015; 10(10):460-467.

Rowley R; **Phillips L;** Carpino S; Husseini R; O'Dell L; Hartman S. "Group prenatal care: a financial perspective." *Maternal and Child Health Journal*. 2015; Epub Jul 31.

Russell H; Brown E; Loomis L; Hartman S. "Newborn care in the first week of life." *New York State Family Doctor*. 2015; 4(1):35-39.

Thornton K; Caprio TV. "Community based care." *Geriatrics Review Syllabus: A Core Curriculum in Geriatric Medicine, 9th ed.* Medina-Walpole A; Pacala JT; Potter JF; eds. New York, NY: American Geriatrics Society, 2016.

Thornton K. "Wound care 101: a guide for the family physician." *Family Doctor*. 2015; 4(2): 32-35.

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Special Delivery by Deborah Pierce, MD

Published in *Pulse*

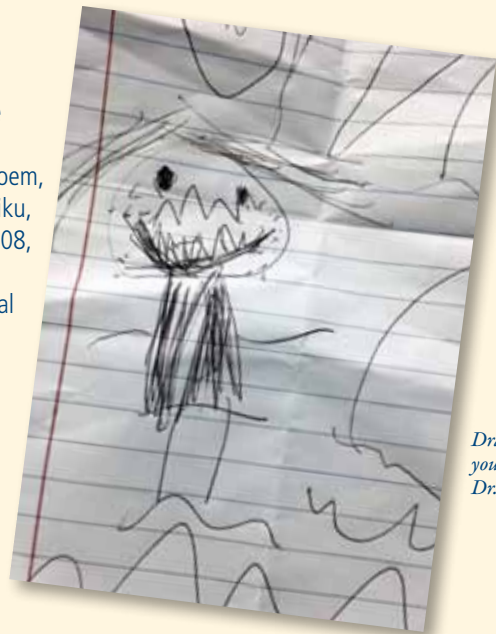
Deborah Pierce, MD, a Clinical Associate Professor of family medicine at the University of Rochester had a first-person story "Special Delivery" published in *Pulse* recently.

Her story tells of caring for a young pregnant woman and the strength of the human spirit and culminates when Dr. Pierce sees the woman's baby five years later for her pre-kindergarten screening.

"I love the richness of primary care and write sporadically as a way to process the intensity of clinical medicine," said Dr. Pierce.

You can read the story at <https://pulsevoices.org/index.php/archive/stories/523-special-delivery>

Every Friday, *Pulse*—voices from the heart of medicine publishes and distributes a first-person story or poem, together with a visual image or haiku, about health care. Launched in 2008, *Pulse* was created by members of the Department of Family and Social Medicine at Montefiore Medical Center and Albert Einstein College of Medicine in collaboration with colleagues and friends around the country. *Pulse* is published by Voices from the Heart of Medicine, Inc., a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation.



Drawing by a young patient of Dr. Pierce.

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Save the Date
The Department of
Family Medicine presents:

2016 Farley Lecture
May 26, 2016

Featuring
Stephen Taplin MD, MPH, alumnus



Deputy Director of Healthcare
Delivery Research Program
National Cancer Institute
Bethesda, MD

"Teaming up on Care"

Please join our faculty and fellow
alumni! Details to follow.



Highland Family Medicine staff are interviewed weekly about current health care topics on the News 8 morning show in Rochester. News 8 anchor Mark Gruba recently spoke to Dr. Mark Mirabella about colon cancer screening.