

GW Heart and Vascular Institute e-Newsletter: March 2024

Heart Health Hero: Exploring the Pioneering Work of a Cardiology Luminary



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Andrew Choi, MD, FACC, MSCCT
Associate Professor of Medicine and Radiology



Each month, the SMHS Center for Faculty Excellence recognizes faculty or staff from across the SMHS, MFA, and Children's for their contributions to GW and beyond! In February 2024, **Dr. Andrew Choi** was featured as he discussed his journey and role within the Division of Cardiology as the Co-Director of Multimodality Cardiac Imaging and clinical lead for the GW Lipid Program. Dr. Choi highlighted his recent panel discussion on "Staying Heart Healthy" and the future of the field of cardiology.

Dr. Choi continues his ongoing work in artificial intelligence and heart prevention through an invited webinar for the American College of Cardiology: Cardiovascular Imaging on "AI in Cardiovascular Imaging - Coronary Artery Disease". He is co-author on a publication in March entitled "AI-Guided Plaque Staging Predicts Long-Term CV Outcomes in Patients at Risk for Atherosclerotic CVD" in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology: Cardiovascular Imaging.

Cardiology in the Community

In February, Cardiology faculty participated in the GW Medicine Bicentennial Series as panelists. They discussed "Staying Heart Healthy" which included a wide range of topics from prevention to innovation in the field.



From left to right: Dean Barbara Bass, Dr. William Borden, Dr. Ramesh Mazhari, Dr. Christian Nagy, Dr. Andrew Choi, Dr. Cynthia Tracy, and Dr. Gurusher Panjrath.

In March, **Dr. Richard Katz**, along with a group of medical students participated in blood pressure screenings at a local church on Pennsylvania Avenue, NE. Participants were provided their own blood pressure cuffs to monitor their blood pressure at home and educated on when to seek medical attention. These blood pressure cuffs were free of charge thanks to a generous donor.



Dr. Gurusher Panjrath presented at the Technology and Heart Failure Therapeutics conference in Boston, which was held March 4-6, 2024. THT is an "international conference that provides an immersive experience in the latest heart failure innovations, focusing on device- and technology-based treatments within the context of drug therapies" (<https://tht2024.crfconferences.com/>). He spoke about "Barostim for Class II/III HFrEF Patients".

Dr. Panjrath also participated on a panel at the Houston Shock Symposium entitled "Cardiogenic Shock: From Bench to Bedside" and "Difficult Cases in Cardiogenic Shock" and presented on the state of "Cardiogenic Shock Management in the United States." The Houston Shock Symposium is one of the biggest symposiums dedicated to cardiogenic shock with experts participating from all around the world.



The GW 7th Annual Cardiovascular Symposium was held on Saturday, March 23. The purpose of this symposium was to discuss the latest updates in management and preventive care, and to provide a comprehensive overview of the prevention, diagnosis, and management of cardiovascular diseases. The symposium was led by course directors, **Dr. Marco Mercader, Dr. Andrew Choi, Dr. Ramesh Mazhari, and Dr. Supria Batra.**



Paving the Way in Publications



Dr. Alan Wasserman was recently published as a co-author in the Journals of the American College of Cardiology.

**2024 ACC Expert Consensus Decision Pathway for Treatment of Heart Failure With
Reduced Ejection Fraction: A Report of the American College of Cardiology
Solution Set Oversight Committee**

The 2021 update to the ACC's guide on treating heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (HFrEF) offers clinicians a clear, practical approach to managing the condition. It covers how to start and maintain evidence-based treatments, tackle common challenges, afford treatments, and care for unique patient groups. The guide uses tips, charts, and diagrams for clarity and efficiency, addressing real-world practice challenges not typically found in clinical trials. With new data and the 2022 heart failure management guidelines, this update aims to simplify HFrEF treatment, helping clinicians improve patient outcomes.

To read more, find the full article [here](#).

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