With Digestive Disease Week® (DDW) just around the corner, we have compiled the following section highlights and meeting guides prepared by the AGA Council Sections listed below. We hope that this feature helps support the basic and translational research communities within the AGA, as well as assisting our readers in taking advantage of the vast array of offerings at DDW.

Thanks very much to the section chairs and vice chairs as well as the AGA staff who helped prepared this compilation, and to all of you for your support of the Journal.

Looking forward to seeing you in San Diego,

JERROLD R. TURNER, MD, PhD, AGAF
Editor-in-Chief, CMGH

DDW 2019 for the AGA Council

Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders
Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology
Clinical Practice
Esophageal, Gastric & Duodenal Disorders Section
Gastrointestinal Oncology
Imaging, Endoscopy & Advanced Technology Section
Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases Section
Liver & Biliary
Microbiome & Microbial Therapy Section
Neurogastroenterology & Motility Section
Obesity, Metabolism & Nutrition
Pancreatic Disorders
Pediatric Gastroenterology & Developmental Biology

Basic & Clinical Intestinal Disorders
Joseph A. Murray, MD and Pradeep K. Dudeja, PhD

Introduction

The Basic and Clinical Intestinal Disorders (BCID) section represents a community of clinical, translational and basic scientists interested in disease-focused and pathway-driven processes underlying:

- Celiac disease and food intolerances;
- Radiation, chemotherapy, and hypoxia-induced injury and repair;
- Diarrhea, malabsorption and enteropathies.
- Microbial pathogenesis and mechanisms of microbe-host cross talk;
- Nutrient, solute, salt and water transport;
- Epithelial cell and molecular biology;
- Epithelial barrier function and wound repair;
- Epithelial functions in innate immunity and inflammation;
- Irritable bowel syndrome.

Our section aims to foster collaboration among interactive scientific communities by featuring outstanding basic, translational and clinical research in these areas.

Research Fora

Saturday, May 18, 2019: “Epithelial Transporters: Novel Pathways of Regulation”
Sunday, May 19, 2019: “IBS Diarrheal Disease”
Monday, May 20, 2019: “Celiac Disease and Related Disorders”, “Gut Barrier Function in Health and Disease”
Tuesday, May 21, 2019: “Nonceliac Wheat (Gluten) Sensitivity”, “Epithelial Junctions and Tight Junction Permeability”, “Intestinal Fibrosis”, “Diarrhea and SIBO”, “Celiac and Gluten Related Disorders”, “Intestinal Epithelial Transport in Health and Disease”

Poster Sessions

BCID is sponsoring 28 poster sessions. The topics include the following:

- “Stem Cell Biology”
- “Organoid Models of GI Disorders”
- “Vitamins and Micronutrients”
- “In Vivo Models of GI Disorders-IBD”
- “Microbial Pathogens, Toxins, Inflammation, Immunity”
- “IBS Pathophysiology”
- “Intestinal Inflammation, Fibrosis and Regeneration”
- “Epithelial Junctions and Barrier Function”
- “Inflammation and Epithelial Cell Function”
- “Enteric Neuromuscular Biology”
- “Cell Signaling in Inflammation, Injury and Repair”
- “Cell Biology, Biochem and Integrative Physiology”
- “Cell and Molecular Biology of GI Disorders”
- “Basic Mechanisms of Tissue Injury, Repair and Fibrosis”
- “Transcriptional, Epigenetic and Genetic Regulation of GI Function”
- “Prebiotics, Probiotics and Synbiotics in Health & Disease”
- “Celiac Disease: Population Science”
- “Celiac Disease Pathophysiology”
- “Celiac Disease: Diagnosis and Management”
Introduction

The AGA Council section Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology (CMG) has broad interests in the basic mechanisms underlying digestive diseases and gastrointestinal biology. The section’s membership has interests representing many areas of cutting-edge science, including growth factors, stem cells, cellular differentiation, epigenetics, mechanisms of receptor function, basic physiology and cell biology, luminal chemosensing, intestinal inflammation, and mucosal injury and healing. CMG strives to invite outside speakers who are leading scientists in their fields to present forward-looking scientific programming at DDW.

We have an exciting lineup for DDW 2019. CMG will sponsor a distinguished abstract plenary session, 4 research symposia, 6 research fora, and 8 poster sessions. We look forward to seeing you at DDW!

Symposia

Saturday, May 18, 2019: “Pathogenesis of Mucosal Disease: Ying and Yang of Inflammation”, “Emerging Roles of Intestinal Transporters in IBD and Beyond”
Sunday, May 19, 2019: “Diet-Microbe-Host Interactions: Implications for Chronic Intestinal Disorders”, “Frances and Don W. Powell, MD, Lecture: Recent Advances in Pathophysiology and Treatment of Bile Acid Diarrhea”
Monday, May 20, 2019: “Clinical Controversy: Screening for Minimally or Nonsymptomatic Persons for Celiac Disease”
Tuesday, May 21, 2019: “Nonceliac Wheat (Gluten) Sensitivity”, “Serotonin (5-HT): A Key Regulator of Microbiota and Intestinal Inflammation”

Research Mentor Award

Established in 2010, the Research Mentor Award recognizes AGA members for their achievements as outstanding mentors in a specific area of research. Members are awarded from each of the 13 AGA council sections.

For Basic and Clinical Intestinal Disorders (BCID) the award will be presented to Wayne I. Lencer, MD, AGAF during the session, Pathogenesis of Mucosal Disease: Ying and Yang of Inflammation, Saturday, May 18 at 10 a.m. in room 29CD.

Other Events

The BCID Section business meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 20, from 5:45 p.m. at the Marriott Marquis, San Diego with NASSCD.

Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology

Linda Samuelson, PhD and Jason Mills, MD, PhD

Introduction

The AGA Council section Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology (CMG) has broad interests in the basic mechanisms underlying digestive diseases and gastrointestinal biology. The section’s membership has interests representing many areas of cutting-edge science, including growth factors, stem cells, cellular differentiation, epigenetics, mechanisms of receptor function, basic physiology and cell biology, luminal chemosensing, intestinal inflammation, and mucosal injury and healing. CMG strives to invite outside speakers who are leading scientists in their fields to present forward-looking scientific programming at DDW.

We have an exciting lineup for DDW 2019. CMG will sponsor a distinguished abstract plenary session, 4 research symposia, 6 research fora, and 8 poster sessions. We look forward to seeing you at DDW!

Research Fora

Topical Research Fora have been organized based on the top-scored abstracts. Some are cross-sectional, drawing abstracts from several sections

Saturday, May 18, 2019: “Organellar Basis of GI Disease”, “Organoid Models of GI Disorders”
Sunday, May 19, 2019: “Enhancing Intestinal Mucosal Repair”
Monday, May 20, 2019: “Endocrine and Tuft Cell Function in the Intestine”, “Inflammatory Mechanisms of GI Disease”
Tuesday, May 21, 2019: “Epitranscriptional and Co-Transcriptional Regulation in GI Health and Disease”

Poster Sessions

CMG is sponsoring 8 poster sessions. The topics include the following:

• “Cell and Molecular Biology of GI Disorders”
• “Enteric Neuromuscular Biology”
• “Stem Cells, Organoids, Cell Plasticity and Tissue Repair”
• “Genetics and Intestinal Disorders”
• “Inflammation and Epithelial Barrier Function”
• “Cell Biology of GI Disorders”
• “Transcriptional Mechanisms of GI Disease”
• “Gastric Neoplasms”

Distinguished Abstract Plenary

Monday, May 20, 2019: “Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology (CMG) Section Distinguished Abstract Plenary: Stem Cells and Differentiated Cell Plasticity in Metaplasia and Regeneration”

In this plenary, top abstracts from the CMG Section, with an emphasis on stem cells and plasticity, will be presented. Attendees will learn about how stem cells are recruited in injury and how that might underlie metaplasia.

Symposia

Sunday, May 19, 2019: “Defining the Intestinal Stem Cell Niche”, “Stem Cells, Metaplasia and Repair in the Upper GI Tract”
Metaplasia seems to involve recruitment of stem cells as part of the normal repair process. Here, luminaries in the field explain how injury causes metaplasia.

**Monday, May 20, 2019:** “Defining Gastrointestinal Inflammation at the Organellar Level”

Recently it has become clear that a cell’s metabolic programming can change in inflammation. Here, top investigators explain how autophagy and mitochondrial dynamics can determine the outcome of inflammation.

**Tuesday, May 21, 2019:** “Transcriptional Regulation of Gastrointestinal Cell Identity”

Here, top investigators will detail how cells use transcriptional and epitranscriptional regulation to differentiate and respond to injury and inflammation in the GI tract.

**Research Mentor Award**

Established in 2010, the Research Mentor Award recognizes AGA members for their achievements as outstanding mentors in a specific area of research. Members are awarded from each of the 13 AGA council sections.

For CMG the award will be presented to Mark Donowitz, MD, AGAF during the session, Cellular & Molecular Gastroenterology (CMG) Section Distinguished Abstract Plenary: Stem Cells and Differentiated Cell Plasticity in Metaplasia and Regeneration, Monday, May 20 at 4 p.m. in room 29A.

**Clinical Practice**

**Paul Moayyedi, MD, PhD, AGAF and Douglas J. Robertson, MD, MPH, AGAF**

**Introduction**

The mission of the Clinical Practice (CP) section is to promote the optimum delivery of high quality, cost-effective gastrointestinal healthcare. Best practices will primarily be identified through cutting-edge research in areas such as epidemiology, population health screening, outcomes research, performance metrics, health economics, systematic reviews, practice management and medical education.

**Research Fora**

The CP section will feature four research foras, which will have oral abstract presentations and invited speakers centered on general themes. These include the following:

**Sunday, May 19, 2019:** “Research Improving the Quality of Colonoscopy and Polypectomy”, “PPI Uses and Misuses”

**Monday, May 20, 2019:** “Barrett’s Surveillance: Which Groups and When to Stop”

**Tuesday, May 21, 2019:** “Colorectal Cancer Screening”

**Poster Sessions**

CP is sponsoring 20 poster sessions. The topics include the following:

- “Guideline Adoption and Implementation”
- “Patient Reported Outcomes”
- “Performance Metrics”
- “Health Care Disparities”
- “Health Economics and GI Disease”
- “Pancreas Diseases”
- “Colorectal Cancer Screening”
- “Functional GI Disorders”
- “Systematic Reviews”
- “Clostridium difficile, FMT, and Antibiotics”
- “Inflammatory Bowel Disease”
- “Celiac Disease”
- “GI Bleeding”
- “Fecal Occult Blood Screening”
- “GI Epidemiology”
- “GI Health Care Delivery”
- “Medical Education and Training”
- “Population Screening for GI Diseases.”

**Distinguished Abstract Plenary**

The Clinical Practice section will hold its distinguished abstract plenary on Monday, May 20 at 8 a.m. in room 9.

**Symposia**

The CP section will feature seven symposia, including clinical topics and highlighting recent practice guidelines. These include the following:

**Saturday, May 18, 2019:** “Questions and Controversies in Barrett’s Esophagus”, “Setting Up a High-Quality Endoscopy Practice”

**Sunday, May 19, 2019:** “Clinical Management of Colonic Disease”, “How to Manage Difficult GI Consultations”

**Monday, May 20, 2019:** “Colorectal Cancer Screening and Surveillance: When to Start, at What Interval and When to Stop”

**Tuesday, May 21, 2019:** “Colonoscopy-Controversy Cage Match”, “Controversies Around Measuring Drug Toxicity: FDA and GI Perspectives”

**Research Mentor Award**

Established in 2010, the Research Mentor Award recognizes AGA members for their achievements as outstanding mentors in a specific area of research. Members are awarded from each of the 13 AGA council sections.

For Clinical Practice, the award will be presented to Linda Rabeneck, MD, MPH during Clinical Practice (CP) Section Distinguished Abstract Plenary, Monday, May 20, at 8 a.m., in room 9.
Esophageal, Gastric & Duodenal Disorders Section
John Y. Kao, MD, AGAF and Ikuo Hirano, MD, AGAF

Introduction
The AGA Institute Council Esophageal, Gastric and Duodenal Disorders (EGD) Section continues to heavily contribute to the educational and research mission of the AGA Institute and remains a highly visible section at Digestive Disease Week® (DDW). The section is diverse in regards to representation of multiple upper GI diseases including esophagus, stomach and duodenum. Advances continue to develop in the area of esophageal reflux and motility testing (e.g., high resolution manometry and mucosal impedance measurements), endoscopic reflux therapies, as well as continued strong interest in both clinical and basic research in eosinophilic esophagitis and Barrett’s esophagus. Dominant areas of investigation in this section include esophageal physiologic testing, eosinophilic esophagitis, H. pylori infection and its chronic implications, GERD and extraesophageal GERD, Barrett’s esophagus, esophageal and gastric dysmotility, and GI bleeding.

Research Fora
The EGD section will feature 10 research fora, which will have a mix of invited speaker presentations and oral abstract presentations on general themes. These include the following:

Saturday, May 18, 2019: “Advances in the Management of Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease”, “Scientific Advances in Eosinophilic Esophagitis and Gastroenteritis”

Sunday, May 19, 2019: “Advances in Peptic Ulcer Disease and Nonvariceal Upper GI Bleeding”, “Clinical Advances in Eosinophilic Esophagitis”, “H. pylori Epidemiology, Diagnosis, Treatment and Antibiotic Resistance”, “Scientific Advances in Barrett’s Esophagus”

Tuesday, May 21, 2019: “Advances in Diagnostic Testing for Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease”, “Basic Mucosal Mechanisms of Diseases of the Upper GI Tract”, “H. pylori Host Response/Mucosal Defense, Injury and Repair”, “Oropharyngeal and Esophageal Motility Disorders”

Distinguished Abstract Plenary
The EGD section will hold its distinguished abstract plenary on Tuesday, May 21 at 8 a.m. in room 9.

Poster Sessions
EGD is sponsoring 16 poster sessions. The topics include the following:

• “Barrett’s Esophagus: Diagnosis, Management and Surveillance”
• “Eosinophilic Esophagitis: Clinical”
• “Eosinophilic Esophagitis: Translational or Basic”
• “Functional Dyspepsia, Nausea and Vomiting”
• “Gastric Neoplasms: Precursor Lesions, Biology, Diagnosis and Therapy”
• “GERD/Barrett’s: Pathogenesis”
• “GERD: Complications and Extraesophageal Presentations”
• “GERD: Diagnostic Testing”
• “GERD: Medical, Surgical and Endoscopic Therapies”
• “Helicobacter pylori: Epidemiology, Diagnosis and Outcomes”
• “Helicobacter pylori: Host Response and Pathogenesis”
• “Helicobacter pylori: Treatment and Antimicrobial Resistance”
• “Molecular Mechanisms of Growth and Development of the GI Tract, Liver and Pancreas”
• “Mucosal Defense, Secretion, Injury, Repair and Healing”
• “Oropharyngeal and Esophageal Motility Disorders”
• “Peptic Ulcer Disease and Nonvariceal UGI Bleeding”

Symposia
EGD will also program five symposia addressing challenging clinical topics and highlighting recent practice guidelines.

Saturday, May 18, 2019: “Eosinophilic Esophagitis: What’s New and What to Do?”

Sunday, May 19, 2019: “Donald O. Castell, MD, Lecture: Controversies in Esophageal Disorders”

Monday, May 20, 2019: “Challenges in the Management of GERD in 2019”, “Kristin and David Peura, MD, Lecture: Controversies in the Management of H. pylori Infection”

Tuesday, May 21, 2019: “Challenges and Controversies in Barrett’s Esophagus”

Research Mentor Award
Established in 2010, the Research Mentor Award recognizes AGA members for their achievements as outstanding mentors in a specific area of research. Members are awarded from each of the 13 AGA council sections.

For Esophageal, Gastric & Duodenal Disorders, the award will be presented to Stuart Jon Spechler, MD, AGAF, during the Esophageal, Gastric & Duodenal Disorders (EGD) Section Distinguished Abstract Plenary, on Tuesday, May 21, at 8 a.m. in room 9.

Gastrointestinal Oncology
John Lynch, MD, PhD and Andrew Chan, MD, MPH, AGAF

Introduction
The Gastrointestinal Oncology (GIONC) Section is dedicated to expanding and advancing the science and practice of
Research Fora
The Gastrointestinal Oncology research fora intend to showcase high quality abstracts submitted to the section for presentation in San Diego this year. Fora topics were chosen to bring together thematically related abstracts that both reflect section members’ interests, and to foster interaction between presenters and attendees.

Saturday, May 18, 2019: “Clinical: Screening and Prevention”
Sunday, May 19, 2019: “Molecular Pathways and Targeted Therapies in Gastrointestinal Cancers”
Monday, May 20, 2019: “Gastrointestinal Neoplasms: Biology and Research Models”, “Inflammation and GI Cancers”, “Neuroendocrine Neoplasms: Diagnosis and Molecular Pathogenesis”, “Colonoscopy-Based Screening for Colorectal Cancer”
Tuesday, May 21, 2019: “Biomarkers and Molecular Signatures — From Bench to Bedside”, “Clinical: Familial Cancer Risk”, “GI Cancer Cell Biology and Molecular Mechanisms”, “Early Onset Colorectal Cancer”, “Gastric Neoplasms: Precursor Lesions, Biology, Diagnosis, and Therapy”, “Metabolism, Obesity, Microbiome and Nutrition in GI Cancer Pathogenesis”

Distinguished Abstract Plenary
The GIONC section will hold its Distinguished Abstract Plenary on Monday, May 20, 2019, at 4 p.m., room 29B.

Poster Session
GIONC is sponsoring 24 poster sessions on the topics listed below:

- “Cancer Stem Cells and Circulating Tumor Cells”
- “Carcinoid and GI Neuroendocrine Neoplasm: Cell Biology, Genetics, Development, Diagnosis and Clinical Therapeutics”
- “Tumor Cell Biology, Immunology, and Microenvironment”
- “Molecular Mechanisms and Pathways in Carcinogenesis and Metastasis: Bench to Bedside”
- “Pancreatic Cancer: Risk Factors, Biology, Diagnosis and Clinical Therapeutics”
- “Familial Cancer Syndromes and Cancer Genetics”
- “GI Cancer Research Models: Organoids, Engineered Cell and Tissue Platforms, and Animal Models”
- “Metabolism, Obesity, Microbiome, and Nutrition in GI Cancer Pathogenesis”
- “Microbiome and Cancer”
- “Canceromics: Cancer Genomics, Epigenomics, Metabolomics, Proteomics and Systems Biology”
- “Gastric Neoplasms: Precursor Lesions, Biology, Diagnosis and Therapy”
- “Esophageal and Junctional Neoplasms: Precursor Lesions, Biology, Diagnosis and Clinical Therapeutics”
- “Inflammation and GI Cancers”
- “Biomarkers for Detection, Treatment and Prognosis of GI Cancers”
- “Colon Cancer Screening”
- “Epidemiology of Gastrointestinal Disorders”
- “Population Health Screening: Colorectal Cancer, Esophageal Cancer, Hepatocellular Carcinoma, Other Screening”
- “Cancer Prevention and Chemoprevention”
- “Liver and Biliary Carcinoma: Management, Etiology, Diagnosis and Natural History”

Symposia
GIONC is also sponsoring six symposia, as follows:
Saturday, May 18, 2019: “Innovating the Next Generation of Pancreatic Cancer Models and Therapies”, “The Next Generation of Cancer Models and Therapies”
These sessions will focus on recent advances in basic and translational research as well as the most recent and innovative approaches to model of GI cancers. Insights gained from these sessions are expected to help investigators innovate their own research programs.
Sunday, May 19, 2019: “Hereditary Colorectal Cancer and Genetics”, “Clinical Trials in the Chemoprevention of Colon Cancer”
These sessions will focus on clinical advances in two “hot areas” of GI cancer: hereditary GI cancer genetics and chemoprevention. Both sessions will provide “state-of-the-art” updates, including the release of the first public results of data from two large, randomized controlled trials.
Monday, May 20, 2019: “Inflammation, Immune Suppression, and Tumor Immunology”
This session will explore the balance between inflammation and immunity, which play pivotal roles in the initiation, progression, and, most recently, the treatment of GI cancers.
Tuesday, May 21, 2019: “The Microbiome and GI Cancer”
This session will provide “state-of-the-art” updates on the role of the gut microbiome in promoting the onset and progression of a number of GI cancers.
Research Mentor Award

Established in 2010, the Research Mentor Award recognizes AGA members for their achievements as outstanding mentors in a specific area of research. Members are awarded from each of the 13 AGA council sections.

For Gastrointestinal Oncology, the award will be presented to Richard M. Peek, Jr. MD, AGAF during the GIONC Distinguished Abstract Plenary on Monday, May 20, at 4 p.m., in room 29B.

Other Events

Sunday, May 19, 2019
Funderburg Symposium: Beyond Watson: Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning to Advance Gastric Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment.

This session informs attendees about advances in machine learning and artificial intelligence in the field of cancer research, therapeutics, and GI cancer precision medicine.

Imaging, Endoscopy & Advanced Technology Section
Jacques Van Dam, MD, PhD, AGAF and Neil Gupta, MD, MPH

Introduction

The AGA Institute Council Imaging, Endoscopy and Advanced Technology (IEAT) Section identifies research submitted to Digestive Disease Week® (DDW) that incorporates novel applications or improvements to existing technology or new techniques that image or treat disorders of the gastrointestinal tract, liver, bile ducts, gallbladder or pancreas. Along with other sections of the council, it designs multidisciplinary symposia and sessions for DDW that are designed to appeal to clinicians and scientists in gastroenterology, surgery and radiology. Future goals of the section include identification and highlighting of cutting-edge technology in endoscopy, radiology, imaging and molecular techniques.

Research Fora

The IEAT section will feature three research fora. These include the following:

Sunday, May 19, 2019: “Advancements in Endoscopic Imaging to Improve Screening and Surveillance Colonoscopy”
Monday, May 20, 2019: “Advances in EUS and ERCP”
Tuesday, May 21, 2019: “Technological Advancements in the Histological Assessment of Barrett’s Esophagus”

Poster Sessions

IEAT is sponsoring four poster sessions. The topics include the following:

- “Advanced Imaging of the Upper and Lower GI Tract”
- “Advances and Adjuncts to Endoscopy”

Symposia

IEAT will also program five symposia.

Saturday, May 18, 2019: “Controversies in Biliary Endoscopy”, “Improving Your Adenoma Detection Rate in 2019”
Sunday, May 19, 2019: “Computers in Endoscopy”
Monday, May 20, 2019: “Acute and Chronic Pancreatitis”
Tuesday, May 21, 2019: “Technological Advances in IBD”

Research Mentor Award

Established in 2010, the Research Mentor Award recognizes AGA members for their achievements as outstanding mentors in a specific area of research. Members are awarded from each of the 13 AGA council sections.

For Imaging, Endoscopy & Advanced Technology, the award will be presented to Irving Waxman, MD, during the clinical symposium, Acute and Chronic Pancreatitis, on Monday, May 20, at 4 p.m. in room 3.

Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases Section
Uma Mahadevan, MD, AGAF and Peter D. R. Higgins, MD, PhD, MSc (CRDSA)

Introduction

The AGA Institute Council Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases (IMIBD) Section executes AGA’s strategic plan by providing an international forum to present and evaluate the most exciting and innovative research in the field. By providing a forum for debate, collaboration and an exchange of ideas, the IMIBD section helps define what is state-of-the-art care in IBD and pushes the boundaries of science in search of a cure. Established and emerging leaders collate this information to provide education and training to both the next generation of researchers as well as for providers caring for patients with IBD. This enhanced knowledge leads to improved practice and quality, ultimately showing the value of section through the work of its diverse members.

Research Fora

The IMIBD section will feature 13 research fora, which will have a mix of invited speaker presentations and oral abstract presentations on general themes. These include the following:

Saturday, May 18, 2019: “Epidemiology and Natural History of IBD”, “Improving Quality of Care and Quality of Life in the Patient With IBD”, “Sunrise, Sunset: Pediatric and
Geriatric IBD”, “The Pregnant Patient: Therapy and Diagnostics”

**Sunday, May 19, 2019:** “IBD: Microbiome”, “Kiron and Kamala Das Symposium: World IBD Abstracts”, “Pathogenesis of IBD”, “Predicting Outcomes in IBD: Biomarkers to Endoscopy”

**Monday, May 20, 2019:** “Farron and Martin Brotman, MD, Lecture — The Medical-Surgical Patient: Impact of Medical Therapy and Disease Activity on Surgery Rates and Outcomes”, “Patricia and Ralph Giannella Lecture: All About JAK (Inhibitors) in IBD”, “Prediction of Therapeutic Outcomes in IBD”

**Tuesday, May 21, 2019:** “Clinical Trials in IBD: Optimizing Current Therapies”, “IBD Clinical Trials: Emerging Therapies”

**Distinguished Abstract Plenary**

The IMIBD section will hold its distinguished abstract plenary on Sunday, May 19 at 4 p.m. in room 20BCD.

**Poster Sessions**

IMIBD is sponsoring 26 poster sessions. The topics include the following:

- "Animal Models: Preclinical Treatment of Intestinal Inflammation"
- "Epithelial Cell Function in Inflammation"
- "IBD: Adverse Events Related to Therapy"
- "IBD: Comparative Effectiveness Studies"
- "IBD: Controlled Clinical Trials in Humans"
- "IBD: Cytokines, Signaling and Receptors"
- "IBD: Diagnostics in IBD"
- "IBD: Disease Activity Assessment"
- "IBD: Disease Complications"
- "IBD: Epidemiology"
- "IBD: Genomics and Gene Function"
- "IBD: Innate and Adaptive Lymphoid Activation and Regulation"
- "IBD: Microbiome"
- "IBD: Natural History and Outcomes"
- "IBD: Practice Management, Quality of Care, Quality Assurance"
- "IBD: Quality of Life and Psychosocial Care"
- "IBD: Therapeutic Monitoring"
- "IBD: Uncontrolled Therapeutic Observations in Humans Biologic"
- "IBD: Uncontrolled Therapeutic Observations in Humans Nonbiologic"
- "Intestinal Inflammation, Fibrosis and Regeneration"
- "Microbial-Based Therapy"
- "Microbial-Induced Mucosal Inflammation and Innate Immunity"
- "Mucosal Innate Function and Innate Host Defense: Inflammatory Bowel Disease"
- "Pediatric IBD: Clinical and Translational Studies"
- "Role of the Gut Microbiome in Immune and Inflammatory Diseases III"
- "Viral, Eukaryote and Prokaryote Members of the Gut Microbiome"

**Symposia**

IMIBD will also program nine symposia. These include the following:

**Saturday, May 18, 2019:** "Growing New Intestines From Stem Cells: Hurdles and Progress", "Systems Biology and the Pathophysiology of IBD", “The Other Cells in IBD: Myofibroblasts, Paneth Cells and Goblet Cells in IBD Pathogenesis”, “The Role of Diet and Environment in the Management of IBD”

**Sunday, May 19, 2019:** "Ellen Scherl–Jill Roberts Lecture — AGA Clinical Care Pathways: Optimizing IBD Care in Your Daily Practice", “Whole Exome Sequencing and Functional Assays as Tools for Studying Early-Onset IBD”

**Monday, May 20, 2019:** “Fire in the Hole: Are We Winning the War Against Fistulizing Crohn’s Disease?”, “Translating Genetic Insights to IBD Decision-Making”

**Tuesday, May 21, 2019:** “Microbiome as Therapy in IBD and CDI”

**Research Mentor Award**

Established in 2010, the Research Mentor Award recognizes AGA members for their achievements as outstanding mentors in a specific area of research. Members are awarded from each of the 13 AGA council sections.

For Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases, the award will be presented to Edward V. Loftus, Jr., MD, AGAF, during the Immunology, Microbiology & Inflammatory Bowel Diseases (IMIBD) Section Distinguished Abstract Plenary, Sunday, May 19, at 4 p.m., in room 20BCD.

**Other Events**

World IBD Day is Sunday, May 19. Join us as we recognize this day and spread awareness of this disease.

**Liver & Biliary**

Kenneth E. Sherman, MD, PhD and Vijay Shah, MD

**Introduction**

The Liver & Biliary (LB) section is dedicated to advancing the science and clinical practice of gastroenterology by providing leadership in topics central to the epidemiology, diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic hepatobiliary diseases. The section is focused on providing state-of-the-art programming in all aspects of clinical, translational and basic science research as it relates to liver disease and transplantation. It is the second largest section in the AGA Council, and collaborates with multiple AGA sections and the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) in offering abstract-driven sessions at Digestive Disease Week® (DDW).
**Research Fora**

The LB section will feature 3 fora, the majority of which will showcase both abstract and invited presentations. They encompass areas of major scientific advance in liver and biliary disease.

**Saturday, May 18, 2019: “Biliary Tract Disease”**

Both gastroenterologists and specialized hepatologists require expertise in biliary tract disease to be effective clinicians. This session will provide new information in this critical transitional area.

**Sunday, May 19, 2019: “NASH”**

NASH has surpassed hepatitis C as the main reason for liver transplantation in the U.S. and elsewhere. In light of a burgeoning obesity epidemic, NAFLD and NASH will continue to increase. New diagnostic methods and treatments will be highlighted.

**Monday, May 20, 2019: “Advanced Liver Disease”**

Complications of chronic liver disease require carefully skilled hepatology skills to manage. This session will provide state of the art knowledge in the area.

**Poster Sessions**

LB is sponsoring 10 poster sessions. The topics include the following:

- “Clinical Biliary Tract Disorders, Stone Diseases and Stone Pathogenesis”
- “Pharmacoeconomics and Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of Liver Disease”
- “Complications of Cirrhosis and Portal Hypertension”
- “Liver and Biliary Carcinoma: Management, Etiology, Diagnosis and Natural History”
- “Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Diseases and NASH”
- “Alcoholic Fatty Liver Diseases”
- “Viral Hepatitis”
- “Metabolic and Genetic Liver Disease”
- “Hepatic Fibrosis, Diagnosis and Treatment”
- “Extraintestinal Interactions of the Gut Microbiome”

**Symposia**

The LB section will also feature 4 clinical symposia, focused on areas of interest for academic and practicing clinicians as follows: “AGA Emmet B. Keefe Symposium — Hepatitis A: It’s a Problem Again”, “Hepatocellular Cancer: Pathogenesis, Diagnosis and Treatment”, “A Day of Liver Consults”, “Alcoholic Liver Disease: Epidemiology, Pathogenesis and Treatment”

**State of the Art**

**Sunday, May 19, 2019: “The Dr. Charles S. Lieber Lecture — Novel Advances in Non-Invasive Imaging Assessment of NAFLD”**

**Research Mentor Award**

Established in 2010, the Research Mentor Award recognizes AGA members for their achievements as outstanding mentors in a specific area of research. Members are awarded from each of the 13 AGA council sections.

For Liver & Biliary, the award will be presented to David A. Brenner, MD during the Dr. Charles S. Lieber Lecture — NASH: Pathogenesis and Clinical Translation Significance session, on Sunday May 19 at 10 a.m. in room 24ABC.

**Other Events**

**Sunday, May 19, 2019**

Alcoholic Liver Disease: Best of AGA and AASLD

This is a joint research forum by two societies, AGA and AASLD, featuring high-quality abstracts from both societies. The talks will focus on the newest clinical and translational advances in alcohol-related liver disease.

**Microbiome & Microbial Therapy Section**

Tor Christopher Savidge, PhD and Jun Sun, PhD, MS, AGAF

**Introduction**

DDW® 2019 is the inaugural event for members interested in this newly re-named section of the council. The goal of the Microbiome & Microbial Therapy (MMT) section is to promote ideas, research, technology, education and dialogue that advance the understanding of the gastrointestinal microbiome in health and disease.

**Research Fora**

The MMT is offering research sessions that feature outstanding speakers who will present findings that highlight emerging areas of discovery that advance our understanding of the role of the gut microbiome in health and disease. MMT is also happy to co-sponsor many sessions this year as the microbiome is a cross cutting field of interest that goes beyond this section. Please be sure to use the mobile planner and app once its available to see all the MMT related sessions.

**Sunday, May 19, 2019: “Microbial Regulation of Host Metabolic and Energy Homeostasis”, “Clostridoides Difficile Colitis Pathogenesis, Diagnosis, Management and Therapy”**

**Monday, May 20, 2019: “Microbiome and Cancer”, “Microbial-Based Therapy”**

**Tuesday, May 21, 2019: “Role of the Gut Microbiome in Immune and Inflammatory Diseases”, “The Microbiome-Gut-Brain Axis in Health and Disease”, “Prebiotics and Probiotics in Health and Disease”, “Microbial Dysbiosis: Causes and Consequences”**

**Poster Sessions**

MMT is sponsoring 18 poster sessions. The topics include the following:
• "Clostridioides Difficile Colitis: Pathogenesis, Diagnosis, Management and Therapy"
• "Diarrheal Diseases, Bacterial Overgrowth, Drug Induced and Other Enteropathies"
• "Diet and the Gut Microbiome"
• "Enteric Sensation in Health and Disease (Including Visceral Pain, Neuroimmunology, Epithelial Junctions, Intestinal Barrier Function/Dysfunction and Interactions with the Microbiome)"
• "IBD: Microbiome"
• "Metabolism, Obesity, Microbiome, and Nutrition in GI Cancer Pathogenesis"
• "Microbial Dysbiosis: Causes and Consequences"
• "Microbial Regulation of Host Metabolic and Energy Homeostasis"
• "Microbial-Based Therapy"
• "Microbiome and Cancer"
• "Microbiome and Infectious Diseases"
• "Pediatric Microbiome and Microbial Therapies"
• "Prebiotics, Probiotics and Synbiotics in Health and Disease"
• "Role of the Gut Microbiome in Immune and Inflammatory Diseases I"
• "Role of the Gut Microbiome in Immune and Inflammatory Diseases II"
• "The Gastrointestinal Microbiome: Determinants and Dynamics of Structure and Function"
• "The Microbiome in Pancreatitis, Pancreatic Malabsorption and Pancreatic Tumorigenesis"
• "The Microbiome-Gut-Brain Axis in Health and Disease"

**Distinguished Abstract Plenary**

**Saturday, May 18, 2019:** "Microbiome & Microbial Therapy (MMT) Section Distinguished Abstract Plenary"

**Symposia**

**Saturday, May 18, 2019:** "Breaking New Ground: How Microbial Therapeutics Are Advancing Treatment of Gastrointestinal and Metabolic Diseases", "Gut Feelings: Microbiota-Neuroimmune Interactions in Human Disease", "Precision Microbiome Medicine to Combat GI Infectious Disease"

**Sunday, May 19, 2019:** "Charles M. Mansbach, II, MD, Memorial Lecture: Metabolic and Obesogenic Signals Provided by the Gut Microbiota", "Dark Matter: Nonbacterial Kingdoms of the Gut Microbiome", "Genetic and Environmental Impact on the Human Gut Microbiome"

**Monday, May 20, 2019:** "A Host Perspective of the Inflamed Gut Microbiome"

**Tuesday, May 21, 2019:** "Designing Bugs as Drugs: Challenges in Discovery, Regulatory and Trial Design"

**Research Mentor Award**

Established in 2010, the Research Mentor Award recognizes AGA members for their achievements as outstanding mentors in a specific area of research. Members are awarded from each of the 13 AGA council sections.

For MMT, the award will be presented to R. Balfour Sartor, MD during the session, *A Host Perspective of the Inflamed Gut Microbiome*, on Monday, May 20 at 2 p.m. in room 29CD.

**Neurogastroenterology & Motility Section**

John W. Wiley, MD and John E. Pandolfino, MD, AGAF

**Introduction**

The Neurogastroenterology & Motility (NGM) section of the AGA Council is dedicated to serving the field of neurogastroenterology and gastrointestinal motility by promoting excellence in research, innovation, education and training.

Some of the sections main goals are:

- To attract the best science and cutting-edge research in neurogastroenterology and GI motility for presentation at Digestive Disease Week® (DDW).
- To educate and train gastroenterologists, research scientists, surgeons, physiologists, trainees, nurses and technicians on the latest developments in the field.
- To foster interdisciplinary basic science, translational and clinical research.
- To lead and critically examine the development of novel tools for studying neurogastroenterology and motility disorders, and gut and brain interactions, both at the bench side and for patient care.

**Research Fora**

The NGM section will feature 10 research fora. These include the following:

**Saturday, May 18, 2019:** "Constipation and Anorectal Dysfunction", "IBS: Pathophysiology", "Josephine and Michael Camilleri, MD, Lecture: Motility Matters"

**Sunday, May 19, 2019:** "Gastroparesis and Small Intestinal Dysmotility", "Psychogastroenterology"

**Tuesday, May 21, 2019:** "Brain-Gut Axis (Including Neuroimaging, Vagal Pathways and Neurobiology of Satiety, Obesity and Metabolic Disorders)", "Functional Dyspepsia, Nausea and Vomiting", "IBS: Clinical", "Integration of Enteric Sensation and Neuromuscular Function", "The Microbiota, Dysbiosis and Irritable Bowel Syndrome"

**Distinguished Abstract Plenary**

The NGM section will hold its distinguished abstract plenary on Monday, May 20 at 4 p.m. in room 31A.
Poster Sessions

NGM is sponsoring 12 poster sessions. The topics include the following:

- “Anorectal Dysmotility”
- “Brain-Gut Axis”
- “Constipation and Other Functional Colonic Syndromes”
- “Enteric Neurobiology: Cell and Molecular Biology”
- “Enteric Sensation in Health and Disease”
- “Functional Dyspepsia, Nausea and Vomiting”
- “Gastroparesis and Small Intestinal Dysmotility”
- “IBS: Clinical,” “IBS: Pathophysiology”
- “Microbiome-Gut-Brain Axis in Health and Disease”
- “Oropharyngeal and Esophageal Motility Disorders”
- “Psychogastroenterology”

Symposia

NGM will also program four symposia. These include the following:

Saturday, May 18, 2019: “Early Life Events on Pediatric Functional Bowel Disorders: What Is Their Relevance?”
Sunday, May 19, 2019: “Behavioral Assessments and Treatments for the Gastroenterologist”
Monday, May 20, 2019: “Microphysiological Systems to Model the Neural-Epithelial Axis in the Gut”
Tuesday, May 21, 2019: “Barrier Disruption in IBS and Esophageal Disorders: Molecules, Mechanisms and Therapeutic Potential”

Research Mentor Award

Established in 2010, the Research Mentor Award recognizes AGA members for their achievements as outstanding mentors in a specific area of research. Members are awarded from each of the 13 AGA council sections.

For Neurogastroenterology & Motility, the award will be presented to Gianrico Farrugia, MD, AGAF during the Neurogastroenterology & Motility (NGM) Distinguished Abstract Plenary, Monday, May 20 at 4 p.m. in room 31A.

Obesity, Metabolism & Nutrition

Sandeep K. Gupta, MD, AGAF and Gerard E. Mullin, MD, AGAF

Introduction

In recent years, DDW programming by the Obesity, Metabolism and Nutrition (OMN) section has emphasized subject areas that have appealed to a majority of meeting attendees, especially those affiliated not only with the OMN section, but also other sections with which we share common interests, as reflected by our strong participation in cross-sectional programming. Our programming includes fora and symposia highlighting related topics, including bariatric surgery, GI neuroendocrinology and metabolism, new and innovative endoscopic and other treatments of obesity and diabetes, fatty liver disease, GI regulation of energy balance, weight and metabolic function, microbiota and metabolic regulation, and nutrition and metabolism across the life cycle. Nutritional support in all of its forms used in the management of a variety of diseases, including obesity, intestinal failure and inflammatory bowel disease, as well as nutrient absorption and metabolism, have also continued to be the focus of OMN programming. The OMN section has also endeavored to strike a balance between basic research to shed light on disease mechanisms, including pre-clinical studies to develop new therapies, and clinical and translational research to better describe disease phenotypes and test new therapeutic approaches.

Research Fora

For DDW 2019, the OMN section is sponsoring one Research Forum:

Sunday, May 19, 2019: “Metabolic Abnormalities and Adaptation in Obesity”

Poster Sessions

OMN is sponsoring 4 poster sessions. The topics include the following:

- “Diet and Nutrients in GI”
- “Nutritional Support and Failure”
- “Obesity Clinical and Medical Care”
- “Obesity Endoscopic and Surgical Interventions”

Distinguished Abstract Plenary

Tuesday, May 21, 2019: “Obesity, Metabolism & Nutrition (OMN) Section Distinguished Abstract Plenary”

Symposia

Saturday, May 18, 2019: “Endoscopic Management of Obesity”, “Food as Medicine for GI Health and Disease”
Monday, May 20, 2019
Clinical Assessment and Management of Obesity in 2019 Demystifying Controversies in Nutrition for the Practicing Gastroenterologist
Tuesday, May 21, 2019: “Managing Short Bowel Syndrome in Adults: The Evidence and Lessons Learned”

State of the Art

Sunday, May 19, 2019: “Enteroe-Endocrine Cells: Key Regulators of Food Intake and Glucose Metabolism”, “Nutrigenomics and Personalized Nutrition in Gastroenterology: Ready for Prime Time?”

Research Mentor Award

Established in 2010, the Research Mentor Award recognizes AGA members for their achievements as outstanding mentors in a specific area of research. Members are awarded from each of the 13 AGA council sections.

For OMN, the award will be presented to Kelly A. Tappenden, PhD, RD during the session, Nutrigenomics and Personalized Nutrition in Gastroenterology: Ready for Prime Time?, on Sunday, May 19 at 2 p.m. in room 24ABC.
Pancreatic Disorders
Santhi Swaroop Vege, MD, AGAF, FACG, FACP and Stephen J. Pandol, MD

Introduction
The Pancreatic Disorders (PAN) Section is dedicated to presenting the most up-to-date clinical and basic science information to as many dedicated members as possible. It provides an all-inclusive group of experts as speakers, who are whetted out by large number of stakeholders and peer reviewed on the best platform in the world.

Research Fora
The presentations in the research fora provide information about multiple advances in pancreatic diseases. Just a few examples include deeper understanding of the role of microenvironment in promotion of pancreatic cancer and development of new tools for dynamic monitoring of acute pancreatitis patients.

The PAN section will sponsor five research fora, as follows:
Saturday, May 18, 2019: “Pancreatic Cancer: Risk Factors, Biology, Diagnosis and Clinical Therapeutics”, “Pancreatic Cystic Neoplasms, IPMN and Neuroendocrine Tumors”, “Basic Themes in Pancreatic Disorders”

Sunday, May 19, 2019: “Clinical Acute Pancreatitis”, “Clinical Chronic Pancreatitis”, “Extraintestinal Interactions of the Gut Microbiome”, “Molecular Mechanisms of Growth and Development of the GI Tract, Liver and Pancreas”

Monday, May 20, 2019: “Pancreatic Cancer: Risk Factors, Biology, Diagnosis and Clinical Therapeutics”, “Pancreatic Cystic Neoplasms, IPMN and Neuroendocrine Tumors”, “Basic Themes in Pancreatic Disorders”

Distinguished Abstract Plenary
The PAN section is thrilled to present six outstanding abstracts in its Distinguished Abstract Plenary on Monday. May 20 at 4 p.m. in room 29CD.

Poster Sessions
The PAN section is sponsoring 14 poster sessions. The topics include the following:

- “Clinical Acute Pancreatitis”
- “Clinical Chronic Pancreatitis”
- “Extraintestinal Interactions of the Gut Microbiome”
- “Molecular Mechanisms of Growth and Development of the GI Tract, Liver and Pancreas”
- “Pancreatic Cancer: Risk Factors, Biology, Diagnosis and Clinical Therapeutics”
- “Pancreatic Cystic Neoplasms, IPMN and Neuroendocrine Tumors”
- “Pancreatic Disorders: Endoscopy and Imaging”
- “Pancreatic Genetics, Epigenetics, Physiology, Cell Biology and Pathobiology”
- “Pancreatitis: Inflammation, Fibrogenesis and Immunology”
- “The Microbiome in Pancreatitis, Pancreatic Malabsorption and Pancreatic Tumorigenesis”

Symposia
The symposia address developments in biomarkers and endoscopic methods for aiding in evaluation of pancreatic cysts and management of pediatric and less common forms of pancreatitis. Looking forward the symposia address immense ongoing efforts to improve outcomes in pancreatic diseases including early diagnosis of cancer and development of therapeutics for pancreatitis and pancreatic cancer.

The PAN section will also program five symposia:
Saturday, May 18, 2019: “NIH, Academia and Consortium Studies: What Should I Know?”, “Why No Drug to Treat Acute Pancreatitis?”

Sunday, May 19, 2019: “Acute Pancreatitis 2019: Off the Beaten Path!”, “Accelerating the Pipeline for Improving Pancreatic Cancer Outcomes”

Monday, May 20, 2019: “Pancreas Cysts, IPMN and Cancer: Where Do We Stand in 2019?”

Research Mentor Award
Established in 2010, the Research Mentor Award recognizes AGA members for their achievements as outstanding mentors in a specific area of research. Members are awarded from each of the 13 AGA council sections.

For Pancreatic Disorders, the award will be presented to Fred S. Gorelick, MD during its Distinguished Abstract Plenary on Monday. May 20 at 4 p.m., in room 29CD.

Pediatric Gastroenterology & Developmental Biology (PGDB)
Maria Oliva-Hemker, MD and Mark R. Frey, PhD

Introduction
Pediatric Gastroenterology & Developmental Biology (PGDB) serves dual roles in both attracting basic scientists focused on the biological pathways that regulate the growth, development and differentiation of the gastrointestinal tract as well as clinicians interested in gastrointestinal diseases affecting the pediatric population.

Research Fora
The PGDB section will feature 9 fora, the majority of which will showcase both abstract and invited presentations.

Saturday, May 18, 2019: “Developmental Biology of the Digestive Organs”

Sunday, May 19, 2019: “Diagnosing and Managing Pediatric IBD in the 21st Century”, “Pediatric Gastroenterology Disorders”, “Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine”

Monday, May 20, 2019: “Pediatric Functional GI Disorders”, “Pediatric Liver and Pancreatic Disorders”, “Mechanisms of Intestinal Injury and Repair”
Tuesday, May 21, 2019: “Pediatric Functional and Inflammatory Disorders”, “Basic Advances in Pediatric Gastroenterology”

Poster Sessions
PGDB is sponsoring 31 poster sessions. The topics include the following:

- “Pediatric Health Care Delivery, Disparities & Quality”
- “Pediatric Stomach & Small Bowel Disorders III”
- “Pediatric Functional GI & Motility Disorders III”
- “Pediatric Inflammatory Bowel Disease III”
- “Pediatric Microbiome in GI & Liver Diseases II”
- “Pediatric Liver and Pancreatic Disease”
- “Pediatric Nutrition and Obesity”
- “Pediatric Esophageal Diseases”
- “Pediatric Liver and Pancreatic Disease II”
- “Pediatric Stomach & Small Bowel Disorders”
- “Growth and Developmental Biology”
- “Pediatric Functional GI & Motility Disorders”
- “Pediatric Inflammatory Bowel Disease”
- “Pediatric Colorectal Diseases Poster of distinction”
- “Pediatric Esophageal Diseases II”
- “Pediatric Inflammatory Bowel Disease II”

- “Pediatric Microbiome in GI & Liver Diseases”
- “Pediatric Stomach & Small Bowel Disorders II”
- “Pediatric Esophageal Diseases III”
- “Pediatric Functional GI & Motility Disorders IV”
- “Pediatric Health Care Delivery, Disparities & Quality II”
- “Pediatric Inflammatory Bowel Disease IV”
- “Pediatric Microbiome in GI & Liver Diseases III”
- “Pediatric Pancreatic Diseases”
- “Pediatric Stomach & Small Bowel Disorders IV”
- “Pediatric Functional GI & Motility Disorders II”

Research Mentor Award
Established in 2010, the Research Mentor Award recognizes AGA members for their achievements as outstanding mentors in a specific area of research. Members are awarded from each of the 13 AGA council sections.

For PGDB, the award will be presented to Anne Marie Griffiths, MD during the session, Diagnosing and Managing Pediatric IBD in the 21st Century, on Sunday, May 19 at 10 a.m., in room 31BC.