



Mount  
Sinai

# inside

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April 13 - May 3, 2015

## Clinical Trial Reveals Benefits of Peanut Allergy Skin Patch

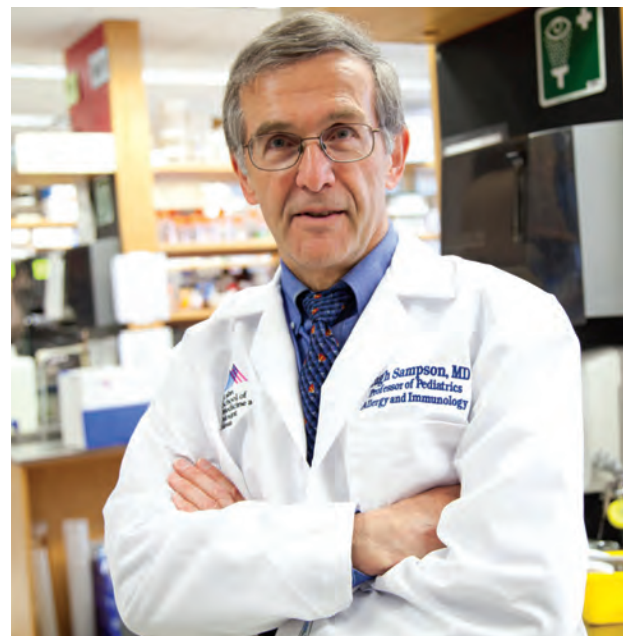
Mount Sinai researchers—leading the largest clinical trial on peanut allergy desensitization—have concluded that a skin patch that gradually exposes the body to small amounts of peanut allergen appears to be safe and effective, and holds promise as a potential treatment for peanut allergies.

Research results from the Phase IIb clinical trial were presented at the 2015 American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology by Hugh A. Sampson, MD, Dean for Translational Biomedical Research and Director of the Jaffe Food Allergy Institute at Kravis Children's Hospital at Mount Sinai, who served as the Co-Principal Investigator of the study. Dr. Sampson is also Professor of Pediatrics, and Immunology, at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

According to Dr. Sampson, the prevalence of peanut allergy in the United States has grown to more than 2 percent of the pediatric population. It is the most common food allergy and can lead to severe allergic reaction and death, even in trace amounts.

Specifically, researchers evaluated the Viaskin® peanut patch, a product

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Hugh A. Sampson, MD

## Students Celebrate Match Day 2015



From left: Emily Steinberger, Eddie Zhang, and Dana Casey were excited to learn they will be pursuing residencies in radiation oncology at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Fox Chase Cancer Center, and Brigham and Women's Hospital, respectively.

The excitement was palpable as Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai's 129 graduating students filled the Annenberg West lobby on Friday, March 20, to open their envelopes and learn which residency programs they would be attending during the next step of their medical training. Many family members, friends, and Mount Sinai Health System physicians were on hand to lend their support and cheer them on during such a milestone event.

Mount Sinai students were matched to some of the nation's most competitive residency programs, including Massachusetts General Hospital; Brigham and Women's Hospital; Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania; Yale-New Haven Hospital; Duke University Medical Center; and University of California, San Francisco Medical Center. Thirty-seven students will remain within the Mount Sinai Health System to continue their training.

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## 2015 Jacobi Medallion Recipients Honored

Nearly 350 faculty, staff, and alumni recently gathered at The Plaza to honor eight physician-leaders with the 2015 Jacobi Medallion—the Mount Sinai Health System’s highest award for distinguished achievement in medicine or extraordinary clinical and educational service within the Health System.

At the gala, held Thursday, March 19, Dennis S. Charney, MD, Anne and Joel Ehrenkranz Dean, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, and President for Academic Affairs, Mount Sinai Health System, announced a \$1.6 million gift from The Mount Sinai Alumni Association, under the leadership of Lyris A. Schonholz, MD, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai class of '83. This is the largest alumni gift in Mount Sinai’s history and will enable the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai to continue to attract promising students and extend tuition support to those in need.

“This remarkable gift comes at a pivotal time for Mount Sinai and for health care,” Dr. Charney told attendees at the event. “We are revolutionizing medical school education and admissions, and inventing new models for health care delivery, and our scientists are breaking new ground in diagnosing, treating, and preventing disease.”



The Jacobi Medallion recipients, standing from left to right: Andy Jagoda, MD, FACEP, Professor and System Chair, Department of Emergency Medicine, Mount Sinai Health System; R. Sean Morrison, MD, MSH '96, Director, Lilian and Benjamin Hertzberg Palliative Care Institute, Mount Sinai Health System; Steven K. Galson, MD, MPH, ISMMS '83, Senior Vice President, Global Regulatory Affairs and Safety, Amgen Inc.; and Gary C. Butts, MD, MSH '83, Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer, Mount Sinai Health System.

Seated from left to right: Jasmin Moshirpur, MD, MSH '67, Professor, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Science, and Medical Director, Elmhurst Hospital Center and Queens Hospital Center; Ramon J.C. Murphy, MD, MPH, MSH '74, Associate Director, The Arnhold Global Health Institute; Joan Y. Reede, MD, MPH, MS, MBA, ISMMS '80, Associate Professor of Medicine, Dean for Diversity and Community Partnership, Harvard Medical School; and Herschel J. Sklaroff, MD, MSH '62, Clinical Professor, Division of Cardiology, Samuel Bronfman Department of Medicine, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

### › Clinical Trial Reveals Benefits of Peanut Allergy Skin Patch *(continued from page 1)*

being developed by the French biotech firm DBV Technologies, which funded the study. In a practice known as epicutaneous immunotherapy, the patch introduces allergenic proteins into the skin to cells that present peanut protein and take it to regulatory cells in local lymph nodes. “It appears to educate the cells to turn off allergic reaction,” says Dr. Sampson.

The study enlisted 221 volunteers, ages 6 to 55, from North America and Europe, to determine reaction thresholds: how much peanut protein it took to elicit an allergic reaction. Researchers next randomly selected subjects to wear a Viaskin® peanut patch coated with a dose of 0, 50, 100, or 250 micrograms of peanut protein.

After one year, the participants’ reaction

thresholds were again tested. The study found the 250-microgram patch was the most effective: 50 percent of those wearing the high-dose patch were able to tolerate consuming at least 10 times their pre-treatment dose, or one gram of peanut protein (equal to roughly four peanuts), with no adverse reactions. “Our work has demonstrated that we may be able to provide low-level protection for patients, to the extent that they will no longer have to fear activities like birthday parties or dining out at a restaurant where there may be an accidental exposure to peanuts, and they wouldn’t have to worry about processed foods with ‘May contain peanuts’ labels,” says Dr. Sampson.

The patch also represents an advance over oral immunotherapy, which requires

patients to ingest increasing amounts of allergic food to increase tolerance. “Virtually everyone has reactions during the course of their oral immunotherapy,” says Dr. Sampson. Adverse reactions typically manifest as itchy mouth, swelling of the lips and tongue, and/or stomachaches; and 5 percent to 20 percent require treatment for more severe reactions.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has fast-tracked continuing study of the patch and plans to launch a Phase III trial this fall, the final hurdle before submitting the product for FDA approval.

*Dr. Sampson is an unpaid member of DBV Technologies’ Scientific Advisory Board.*

# Around the Health System

## One Hundred Black Men, Inc. of New York Holds 35th Annual Gala

Mount Sinai Health System Trustee Carla A. Harris was honored recently at the 35th annual gala of One Hundred Black Men, Inc. of New York, an organization that provides mentoring, education, and other opportunities for the black community. The organization founded the Eagle Academy for Young Men in 2004, which operates five all-male public schools in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, and Harlem, N.Y., and Newark, N.J.

In August, the Eagle Academy Foundation partnered with the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai's Center for Excellence in Youth Education (CEYE) to establish the Lloyd Sherman Scholars Biotech Preparation and Enrichment Program, which will develop science-based skills and career interests among male high-school students of color. The late Lloyd Sherman, EdD, was the founding director of CEYE.

In support of Ms. Harris, members of the Friends of Odysseus, a black and Latino male mentoring program at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, joined several Mount Sinai Health System Boards of Trustees members and others at the event.



▲ Attendees included, from left: Justin Key (Class 2017); Mount Sinai Health System Trustee John S. Winkleman; Ejebe Kenechi, MD, (Psychiatry – PGY 2); Mount Sinai Health System Trustee Carla A. Harris; Reginald Miller, DVM, Co-Chair, Friends of Odysseus; Marley Akonnor; and Terrell Holloway (Class 2017). Also in attendance (not pictured) were: Mount Sinai Health System Trustees Jean C. Crystal and James W. Crystal; Paulette Moore-Akonnor; Charles Dudley (Class 2018); Troy Goff; and Malcolm Reid, MD, Chair, Rehabilitation Medicine, Mount Sinai Roosevelt and Mount Sinai St. Luke's.  
© Margot Jordan Photo

## › Students Celebrate Match Day 2015 *(continued from page 1)*

“This is an unbelievable experience because we know how hard these students have worked. And to watch them be rewarded with what has been their goal all this time is really wonderful,” said David Muller, MD, Dean for Medical Education and the Marietta and Charles C. Morchand Chair for Medical Education.

Mount Sinai's students were among 18,025 who participated in the annual Match Day event, which is managed by the National Resident Matching Program, a private, nonprofit organization that matches students with residencies in U.S. teaching hospitals. The results are generated by a computerized algorithm that aligns the preferences of applicants with those of residency programs.

Match Day was particularly special for Temi Ademuwagun, who had given birth to a boy just five days earlier. “That was the best day of my life,” she said. “Finding out that I matched at Mount Sinai made it the best week of my life. Mount Sinai was my No. 1 choice, and I know that I'll receive excellent training in Pediatrics. I look forward to the next three years.”



Celebrating their residency matches were, from left, Randall Miller, New York University School of Medicine (Anesthesiology); Jonathan Eisen, Tufts Medical Center (Medicine); and Arjun Yerasi, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai (Anesthesiology).

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## Celebrating National Nutrition Month

In the photograph below, Rebecca Blake, MS, RD, CDN, Director of Clinical Nutrition, right, discusses healthy fast-food options with, from left, Dietician Danna Strahl, RD, and visitors Grace Emperio and Sonny Perero at Mount Sinai Beth Israel, Dazian Pavilion. The informational poster and table containing healthy recipes and a sampling of healthy foods—including wheat berry and mango salads—were set up outside the Linsky Building Café on Tuesday, March 24, as part of National Nutrition Month. The poster provided passersby with the opportunity to compare nutrients in a variety of fast-food items.



## Learning about Brain Health

More than 350 children and adults participated in the Third Annual Brain Awareness Fair hosted by the Sinai Neuroscience Outreach Program, in partnership with the Center for Excellence in Youth Education and The Friedman Brain Institute, on Thursday, March 19, during Brain Awareness Week. Forty Mount Sinai volunteers, including faculty, staff, postdocs, and students, shared their expertise for brain health and research. During multiple hands-on activities and exhibits, participants built neuron models out of pipe cleaners, looked at the human brain in 3-D, and examined all types of animal brains. Faculty from the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai also fielded questions from adults about addiction, Alzheimer's disease, autism, and mental health.



◀ From left, Central Park East High School student Kevin Seise learns about the anatomy of different animal brains from Merina Varghese, MD, postdoctoral fellow; Allison Sowa, associate researcher; and MS Candidate Jennifer Short.

## › Students Celebrate Match Day 2015 *(continued from page 3)*

Richard Silvera was delighted to be matched with Montefiore Medical Center, where he will practice Primary Care and Social Internal Medicine. “My program combines primary care, social advocacy, and population health,” he said. “Montefiore was my first choice because they were one of the first residencies of this type with one of the longest-running programs.”

William Chen learned that he will be pursuing his residency in Internal Medicine at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, his No. 1 choice. “I wanted to branch out and train in a different institution and a different city before my practice habits became established,” he said. “I am thrilled about starting the next chapter of my life in Philadelphia.”

In all, 41.9 percent of Mount Sinai's graduating class will receive residency training in primary care; 11.6 percent will enter residency programs in surgical specialties; and 46.5 percent will pursue training in other specialties that include anesthesiology, emergency medicine, obstetrics-gynecology, and psychiatry.



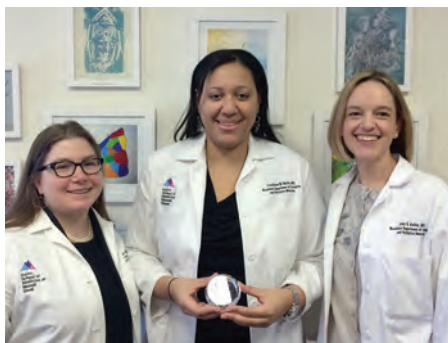
Temi Ademuwagun, left, enjoying Match Day with third-year medical student Gabrielle Phillip, will remain at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai for residency training in Pediatrics.

# Palliative Care Physicians Named Inspiring Leaders

The American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine (AAHPM) has named three physicians from the Brookdale Department of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine at The Mount Sinai Hospital “Inspiring Hospice and Palliative Medicine Leaders Under 40.”

Laura Gelfman, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor, Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine; Amy Kelley, MD, MSHS, Assistant Professor, Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine; and Cardinale B. Smith, MD, MSCR, Assistant Professor of Medicine (Hematology/Medical Oncology), and Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine, were among 40 award recipients honored at the 2015 AAHPM & HPNA (Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association) Annual Assembly in Philadelphia.

The award recipients were evaluated on



From left: Laura Gelfman, MD, MPH; Cardinale B. Smith, MD, MSCR; and Amy Kelley, MD, MSHS

their involvement in AAHPM, their work in educating others about hospice and palliative medicine, mentoring students or residents, charitable work, and professional accomplishments.

“I am thrilled that Dr. Gelfman, Dr. Kelley,

and Dr. Smith have been named inspiring leaders by AAHPM,” says R. Sean Morrison, MD, Co-Director, Patty and Jay Baker National Palliative Care Center, Director, National Palliative Care Research Center, and Director, Lilian and Benjamin Hertzberg Palliative Care Institute. “Each one of these physicians is an incredibly talented and committed junior investigator who has demonstrated outstanding potential for a career in patient-oriented research. Their work has and will continue to advance the field of palliative care, both at Mount Sinai and nationally.”

The Lilian and Benjamin Hertzberg Palliative Care Institute resides in the Brookdale Department of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine, and is partnered with the newly established Patty and Jay Baker National Palliative Care Center at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

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# Recognizing Mount Sinai’s Exceptional Volunteers

Nine Mount Sinai Health System volunteers were among 83 individuals honored recently at the United Hospital Fund’s 22nd Annual Auxilian and Volunteer Achievement Awards ceremony at the Waldorf-Astoria. The event honors exceptional volunteers at nonprofit and New York City-run hospitals.

Awardee Ilana L. Greene, a trained CARE (Care and Respect for Elders in Emergencies) volunteer, has contributed more than 130 volunteer hours at The Mount Sinai Hospital over the past year, despite her busy school schedule and preparations to enter medical school.

“I have had many interactions with Ms. Green, who is dedicated to the geriatric patients in the Emergency Department,” says Cynthia Levy, Director of Volunteer Services. “She possesses an intuitive sense of how to relate to people in need of comfort.”

The following volunteers from the Mount Sinai Health System also were honored for their outstanding work:

- **Mount Sinai Beth Israel**

Mary-Louise Flood volunteers as a Eucharistic Minister, offering the sacrament to Catholic patients.

- **Mount Sinai Beth Israel Brooklyn**

Bonnie Edner and Javier S. Medina, a couple, play major roles in the hospital’s Musician Volunteer Program.

- **The Mount Sinai Hospital**

Audrey G. Kubie has served on the Auxiliary Board since 1991 and as Program Chair of the Board since 2010.



From left: Stephanie Calderon; Jackie Archis; Judy Tenenbaum; Audrey G. Kubie; Javier S. Medina; Bonnie Edner; Rebecca Leigh Mears; and Ilana L. Greene

- **Mount Sinai Queens**

Rebecca Leigh Mears provides support to patients and family members on the surgical floor and waiting area.

- **Mount Sinai Roosevelt**

Jackie Archis provides patients with food and nutrition and responds to requests for information.

- **Mount Sinai St. Luke’s**

Judy Tenenbaum answers patient and family questions and assists staff in the Emergency Department.

- **New York Eye and Ear Infirmary of Mount Sinai**

Stephanie Calderon has volunteered in several areas, including the operating and recovery rooms, ambulatory unit, and retina clinics.

## EVENT

### Mount Sinai St. Luke's-Roosevelt Alumni Association

Faculty, staff, and alumni are welcome to attend the Association's 124th annual dinner. RSVP by Monday, April 20, by calling 917-743-9346 or emailing [dan@slralumni.org](mailto:dan@slralumni.org).

Thursday, April 23

6:30 pm

Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baird Hall

#### Seminar Series / Immunology Institute

Arturo Casadevall, MD, PhD, The Alfred and Jill Sommer Professor and Chair, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, presents "A New Synthesis for Antibody-Mediated Immunity."

Tuesday, April 14

2 pm

The Mount Sinai Hospital Campus  
Goldwurm Auditorium

#### Lecture / Annual Douglas West Endowed Memorial Visiting Lecture

Atul Gawande, MD, MPH, Professor, Health Policy and Management, Harvard School of Public Health, Department of Surgery, Harvard Medical School, presents "Being Mortal." *Sponsored by the Lilian and Benjamin Hertzberg Palliative Care Institute*

Wednesday, April 15

5:30 pm

The Mount Sinai Hospital Campus  
Stern Auditorium

#### Seminar Series / Developmental and Regenerative Biology

Ali H. Brivanlou, PhD, Professor, Brivanlou Laboratory of Molecular Embryology, The Rockefeller University, presents "Dynamic Patterns: Self-Organization of Human Embryonic Cells."

Thursday, April 16

Noon - 1 pm

The Mount Sinai Hospital Campus  
Annenberg 25-51

#### Grand Rounds / Neurology

Lawrence C. Newman, MD, Director, Headache Institute, Mount Sinai St. Luke's, presents "Cluster and the Trigeminal Autonomic Cephalalgias (TACs)."

Friday, April 17

1 - 2 pm

Mount Sinai Beth Israel  
Phillips Ambulatory Care Center  
Levy Conference Room

## Free Skin Cancer Screenings

All Mount Sinai Health System staff, their friends and families, and the public, are invited to learn more about how to prevent skin cancer and receive a total body skin examination. The screenings are for walk-ins only and do not require appointments. They will take place at the following locations:

#### THURSDAY, MAY 7

Kimberly and Eric J. Waldman Department of Dermatology  
The Mount Sinai Hospital  
2 - 6 pm  
5 East 98th Street, Fifth Floor

#### THURSDAY, MAY 7

Department of Dermatology at Mount Sinai Beth Israel  
3 - 6:30 pm  
10 Union Square, Suite 3C

#### THURSDAY, MAY 7

Department of Dermatology at Mount Sinai St. Luke's  
5:30 - 8 pm  
1090 Amsterdam, Suite 11D

#### WEDNESDAY, MAY 20

Department of Dermatology at Mount Sinai Roosevelt  
5:30 - 8 pm  
425 West 59th Street, Suite 5C

## ANNOUNCEMENT

### 52<sup>nd</sup> Bernard H. Eliasberg Memorial Lecture

David M. Gaba, MD, Professor, Anesthesiology, Associate Dean, Immersive and Simulation-Based Learning, Stanford School of Medicine, VA Palo Alto Health Care System, presents "Controversial Issues Regarding Simulation in Health Care." The 52<sup>nd</sup> Bernard H. Eliasberg Memorial Lecture is presented by the Department of Anesthesiology.

Wednesday, April 22

6:30 - 8:10 am

The Mount Sinai Hospital Campus  
Annenberg 13-01



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