



**Division of Geriatric Medicine 2nd Annual Symposium:
A “How-To” For Age Friendly Care Speakers**



Nimit Agarwal, MD

Director, Division of Geriatric Medicine
Program Director, Geriatric Medicine Fellowship Director, Center for Healthy Aging
Clinical Associate Professor, Internal Medicine, Division of Geriatrics/Palliative Care
University of Arizona College of Medicine – Phoenix Banner – University Medical Center Phoenix

Dr. Nimit Agarwal is a geriatrics and internal medicine physician leading the Division of Geriatric Medicine at Banner – University Medical Center Phoenix and the University of Arizona College of Medicine – Phoenix. He leads the Center for Healthy Aging at Banner – UMC Phoenix and is the program director of the Internal Medicine Geriatric Medicine Fellowship Program.

Dr. Agarwal is a clinician, educator, researcher and innovator. Before joining Banner Health and the University of Arizona, he was leading a multispecialty group in New Mexico. When he began as a Hospital Medicine physician at Banner Health in 2014, he saw an immense need for geriatric inpatient services. As a result, he created a comanagement program with his surgical and medicine partners in orthopaedics, trauma, hospital medicine and acute rehabilitation care for providing age-friendly care to our seniors.

He has been able to establish innovative models of care, leveraging the capabilities of the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) to create smart protocols that can assist with identifying gaps in care related to delirium identification, mobility challenges and markers of increased complications during hospitalization of older adults. Dr. Agarwal’s team of geriatricians, nurses, pharmacists, case managers, therapists and nutritionists work in an interdisciplinary model of care called Virtual Acute Care of Elders (vACE).

Under his leadership, Banner – UMC Phoenix became the first hospital in Arizona to receive the Geriatric Emergency Department Accreditation from the American College of Emergency Physicians. Banner – UMC Phoenix is also a member of NICHE: Nurses Improving Care of Healthsystem Elders, an international nursing and consultation program designed to improve geriatric care in health care organizations. Banner – UMC Phoenix has been nationally recognized annually by *U.S. News and World Report* for geriatric medicine.



Dr. Agarwal is passionate about bringing artificial intelligence (AI) technology to create a safer hospital environment for older adults. His team is currently working on an innovative Artificial Emotional Intelligence (AEI) capable device called SeVA — Senior’s Virtual Assistant — which will have the capability to predict falls, cognitive changes and act as a constant bedside patient companion.



Mary Tinetti, MD

Gladys Phillips Crofoot Professor of Medicine (Geriatrics) and Public Health Section Chief, Geriatrics
Yale School of Medicine

Dr. Tinetti is the Gladys Philips Crofoot Professor of Medicine and Public Health and chief of Geriatrics at Yale School of Medicine. Her current research and clinical focus are on clinical decision-making for older adults in the face of multiple health conditions, measuring the net benefit and harms of commonly used medications, and the importance of cross-disease universal health outcomes. She is leading a national effort (Patient Priorities Care) to develop and test an approach to health care that aligns clinical care and decisionmaking with the specific health priorities of older adults with multiple conditions.

This initiative involves: 1) helping older adults identify the health goals they most desire in the face of tradeoffs and the health care they are willing and able to receive (their health care preferences) to achieve these goals; and 2) guiding clinicians to translate these goals and preferences into care decisions. She is evaluating the feasibility of this approach in clinical practice and its effect on patient reported outcomes and health care utilization.

She also chairs a group of advisors helping health systems be AgeFriendly. Dr. Tinetti’s work is funded by the National Institutes of Health and several foundations. She has published over 250 original peer reviewed articles. She has served on several national advisory committees, including the FDA, NCQA, NQF. Dr. Tinetti has received numerous awards and is a member of the National Academy of Medicine and is the recipient of a MacArthur Foundation fellowship.



Kristina Balangue, MD

Clinical Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine, Division of Geriatrics/Palliative Care
University of Arizona College of Medicine – Phoenix Banner – University Medical Center Phoenix

Kristina Balangue, MD is an internal medicine and geriatric medicine board-certified physician. Dr. Balangue obtained her MD in 2003 from the University of the Philippines. She completed her residency in internal medicine at Columbia University at Harlem Hospital Center in 2009 and in 2010 she completed her Fellowship in geriatrics at Rush University Medical Center.

Dr. Balangue was as an attending physician in geriatrics and primary care at San Juan Regional Medical Center, in Farmington, New Mexico, a Level 3 Trauma Center, from 2010 – 2014. From 2014 – 2019, Dr. Balangue worked as an attending physician in the geriatrics and primary care at Banner Health Center in Sun City West, Arizona.

Most recently, Dr. Balangue completed her fellowship in hospice and palliative medicine at Banner – University Medical Center Phoenix in 2020. Currently, she leads the inpatient Geriatrics Consultation Service at Banner – UMC Phoenix.



[Lisa M. Walke, MD, MSHA, AGSF](#)

Chief, Division of Geriatric Medicine
Associate Professor
Perelman School of Medicine University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Walke is the chief of the Division of Geriatric Medicine for the Perelman School of Medicine. Under her leadership, the division is developing clinical programs and partnerships that will foster Penn's development into an Age-Friendly Health System. Dr. Walke's scholarship focuses on the implementation and evaluation of innovative care delivery models to improve health outcomes for older medical and surgical patients.

In addition to her work locally, Dr. Walke is active in geriatrics on a national scale. She is a member of the American Geriatrics Society Clinical Practice and Models of Care Committee and a board member of the Association of Directors of Geriatric Academic Programs. She began her role on the American Board of Internal Medicine Geriatric Medicine Board in July 2020.

Dr. Walke earned her medical degree from the Mount Sinai School of Medicine and holds a master of science in health care administration from the University of New Haven. She completed her internal medicine residency at Montefiore Medical Center and a three-year fellowship in geriatric medicine and clinical epidemiology at Yale University. After completing her fellowship, Dr. Walke was on faculty at the Yale School of Medicine for 15 years before her relocation to Penn. She was named a fellow of the American Geriatrics Society (AGS) in 2014 and received the AGS Outstanding Mid-Career Clinician Educator of the Year award in 2017.



[Shunichi Nakagawa, MD](#)

Associate Professor of Medicine
Hospice and Palliative Care
Columbia University Irving Medical Center

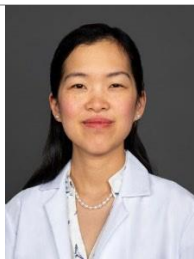
Shunichi Nakagawa, MD, is an associate professor of medicine at the Columbia University Medical Center. He is director of Inpatient Palliative Care Services and director of Cardiac Supportive Care Services in New York Presbyterian Hospital. He became an Apgar member in 2019.

He has extensive training background in general surgery, internal medicine, geriatrics medicine and hospice and palliative care medicine, both in Japan and the US.

Dr. Nakagawa's clinical and research interests are palliative care for the seriously and critically ill, including those with cancer or advanced heart failure. He developed palliative care consultation program prior to left ventricular assist devices implantation at New York Presbyterian Hospital.



Dr. Nakagawa teaches palliative medicine to different level of trainees, including fellows, residents and medical students at bedside. He is sought after as a lecturer, having been invited to conferences in Japan and in the US, locally and nationally. He has strong commitment in teaching medical communication, such as how to break bad news, lead family meetings and navigate difficult decision making for the seriously ill. He received Apgar Grant Awards in 2017 and co-developed the communication skills practice program for general surgery residents.



[Aroonsiri Howell, MD, MPH, FACP](#)

Associate Professor of Medicine Temple University

Dr. Howell is an associate professor of medicine and a board-certified geriatric medicine specialist with clinical interest in HIV and Aging.

She graduated magna cum laude with a BA in economics from Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, at the top 10 percent of her class as a phi beta kappa honor society member. She received her medical degree and master of public health from Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, NY. Dr. Howell completed her internal medicine residency at Yale-New Haven Hospital, New Haven, CT. She completed her geriatric medicine fellowship at Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York, NY, with a special focus on HIV and aging.

In addition to her experience in the U.S., Dr. Howell has worked in both Uganda and Thailand to provide geriatrics care to HIV-infected patients and authored multiple peer-reviewed articles and book chapters on the topic of HIV and aging.

She also founded and served as the principal faculty member for the American Academy of HIV Medicine (AAHIVM) [Intensive Course in HIV and Aging](#), which offers virtual and interactive course on HIV and aging issues at no cost to HIV providers who are MD/NP/PA/PharmD.