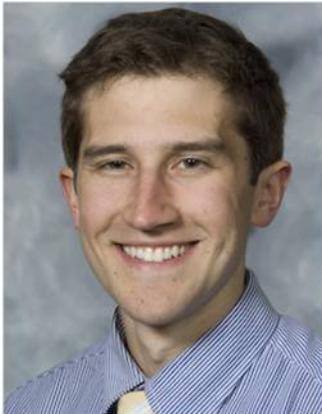


**Clinical Scholars Program  
Getting to Know Our Scholars  
2015**



**Joseph Ebinger, MD**

Originally from a small town outside Milwaukee, Joseph Ebinger, MD, attended college at the University of Wisconsin, where he obtained his undergraduate degree in medical microbiology and immunology. His academic interests extended beyond science, as he also pursued a certificate in integrated liberal studies, leading to his being selected for membership in Phi Beta Kappa. During this time, Ebinger performed research on *Vibrio cholerae* virulence proteins, while also competing at a Big Ten level in swimming. He stayed at Wisconsin for medical school, where his interest in cardiology began. He worked with murine models to develop tools to quantify angiogenesis following implantation of myocardial stem cells. Ebinger graduated Alpha Omega Alpha and left the Midwest for the West Coast, landing at University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), for his internal medicine residency. While in San Francisco, he served on the executive medical board for the UCSF Medical Center and became involved in quality improvement projects ranging from optimizing lab utilization to improving early daytime discharge rates. As his interest in cardiology grew, he worked with his mentors to develop a database to examine outcomes of methamphetamine-induced cardiomyopathy patients in underserved communities. After completing his residency, Ebinger moved to Cedars-Sinai, where he was a cardiology fellow. He is interested in implementation science, helping to bring the wide array of cardiology guidelines and best practices to the bedside, improving the quality, efficiency and delivery of care to patients.



**Christopher V. Almario, MD, MSHPM**

Christopher Almario, MD, is currently a faculty member in the Divisions of Gastroenterology and Health Services Research at Cedars-Sinai. He is originally from San Diego, California, and obtained his undergraduate degree in bioengineering at the University of California, Berkeley, in 2004. He then moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, earned his medical degree at Jefferson Medical College, and then completed his internal medicine training at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. He returned to California in 2012 to join the UCLA gastrointestinal (GI) fellowship program. While at UCLA, he also earned his master's degree in health policy and management through the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. After completing his GI fellowship, Almario joined the Cedars-Sinai faculty in July 2015. Through generous support from an American College of Gastroenterology career development award, he is able to pursue his research interests in clinical informatics, patient-provider portals and health services research.



**Artak Labadzhyan, MD**

Artak Labadzhyan is a faculty member of the pituitary center for the Division of Endocrinology. He completed his medical school and residency training at University of

California, Irvine, prior to moving to Los Angeles for his endocrine fellowship at Cedars-Sinai. Labadzhyan's current research interests involve the pathogenesis of pituitary tumors and clinical research in the diagnosis and treatment of patients with pituitary disorders. The specific disorders that he is focused on include acromegaly, growth hormone deficiency and hypophysitis.



**Snehal Patel, MD, PhD**

Snehal Patel, MD, PhD, participated in a molecular genetic pathology fellowship at Cedars-Sinai. He grew up in Arkansas then attended Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, for his undergraduate degree, a bachelor in engineering, mathematics and biomedical engineering. Patel then attended University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for his graduate/medical education. He would like to continue his career in either academia or industry. Personally, Patel enjoys basketball, outdoor activities and Mexican food.



**Takako Araki, MD**

Takako Araki, MD, received her medical degree from Nagasaki University School of Medicine, Japan, followed by her residency and fellowship at Beth Israel Medical Center,

New York. Araki's project is focused on elucidating mechanisms of underlying human pro-opiomelanocortin (POMC) gene regulation, to gain insight into pathogenesis of paraneoplastic syndromes and identify novel therapeutic targets. Insight from the project will decipher mechanisms underlying paraneoplastic hPOMC gene regulation and pathogenesis, and identify novel therapeutic targets for neuroendocrine tumors.



**Se-Min Kim, MD**

Se-Min Kim, MD, was born and raised in South Korea and attended Catholic medical college in Seoul. After graduation, he fulfilled his military duty working as a primary care physician on an underserved small island. Kim then moved to Philadelphia, where he completed internal medicine training at Albert Einstein Medical Center. Following training, Kim joined the Zaidi Laboratory at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York, where he acquired experience in basic research. Kim was a fellow in endocrinology at Cedars-Sinai, with plans to pursue his interest in research and become a physician-scientist. Kim's primary interests include osteoporosis and metabolic syndrome. He has two babies and, in his spare time, enjoys playing golf, biking and swimming.



**Shouri Lahiri, MD**

Shouri Lahiri, MD, earned his medical degree from the Ohio State University College of Medicine. Following his residency in neurology, he completed subspecialty training in neurocritical care at Columbia University Medical Center/New York Presbyterian

Hospital under the mentorship of Stephan Mayer, MD. During this time, Lahiri served as co-investigator in several National Institutes of Health-sponsored clinical trials, including SHINE, POINT, ATACH-II, and ICTus. He participated in the development of Columbia's comprehensive Neurological ICU disease management protocol and authored the protocol on intracranial pressure management and the study protocol for a novel hypothermia induction device. He developed a patient-powered self-reported outcomes tool to simplify collection of long-term functional outcomes in patients with subarachnoid hemorrhage and led a multidisciplinary team including nursing staff, respiratory therapists and physicians to establish a prospective data-collection system to study extubation parameters in brain injury. Lahiri's research interest includes mechanical ventilation-related outcomes in brain-injured patients.



**Mazen Nouredin, MD**

Mazen Nouredin, MD, is a board-certified gastroenterologist and liver transplant hepatologist who serves as director of the Cedars-Sinai Fatty Liver Program housed at the Comprehensive Transplant Center. Nouredin's research focuses on the underlying mechanisms of nonalcoholic fatty liver disease and nonalcoholic steatohepatitis, new imaging modalities, and exploring new treatments. He has conducted several original studies that have been featured in publications such as *Gastroenterology*, *Hepatology* and the *American Journal of Gastroenterology*. Nouredin joined Cedars-Sinai from the Keck School of Medicine of University of Southern California, where he served as director of the fatty liver program, as well as assistant professor of clinical medicine in the Division of Gastrointestinal and Liver Disease. The Fatty Liver Program at Cedars-Sinai recruits patients for clinical trials targeting new therapies in patients with nonalcoholic fatty liver disease and nonalcoholic steatohepatitis, including those with advanced fibrosis and cirrhosis.



**Konrad Schlick, MD**

Konrad Schlick, MD, is a vascular neurologist in the Department of Neurology at Cedars-Sinai. His primary clinical focus involves the diagnosis and treatment of patients with complex cerebrovascular disorders, especially those with ischemic strokes. Schlick is board-certified in both neurology and vascular neurology, and is a member of the American Academy of Neurology and the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association. He has expertise in the interpretation of transcranial Doppler ultrasound studies and is certified in neurosonology by the American Society of Neuroimaging. He has been involved as a co-investigator in numerous clinical trials and has research interests in hyperacute stroke management and brain injury due to reperfusion. Schlick received his bachelor's degree in biochemistry from the University of Illinois and his medical degree from the Ohio State University. He completed both his neurology residency and a fellowship in vascular neurology at the University of California, San Diego, where he also served as chief resident. He pursued further fellowship training in stroke at Cedars-Sinai.



**Arvind Shinde, MD**

Arvind Shinde, MD, MBA, MPH, is a faculty physician in the departments of supportive care medicine and hematology and oncology at the Cedars-Sinai Samuel Oschin Comprehensive Cancer Institute. Shinde earned his bachelor of science in neuroscience, with honors, from UCLA and went on to earn his medical degree from the University of Southern California. While he was in medical school, his interest in understanding the economics behind healthcare and strategies for addressing health disparities led to his completion of a master of business administration from University of Southern California and a master's in public health from Harvard University, with a focus on health administration and policy. Afterward, he completed a residency in internal medicine at Cedars-Sinai and the Veterans Affairs West Los Angeles Medical Center. Shinde went on to complete a fellowship in hospice and palliative medicine at San Diego Hospice and the Institute for Palliative Medicine, and a fellowship in hematology and oncology at City of Hope/Harbor-UCLA Medical Center. Shinde's clinical focus is twofold: along with colleagues in surgery, gastroenterology, radiation oncology and radiology, he participates in a multidisciplinary team to provide oncologic care to patients with gastrointestinal malignancies; he also collaborates with inpatient and outpatient supportive medicine colleagues to provide supportive care services to patients and families receiving care for complex and advanced illnesses, including those undergoing curative therapies. Shinde's current research interests include the evaluation of strategies to incorporate supportive care services into the care of patients with solid tumor and hematologic malignancies, in order to improve clinical outcomes and quality of life for patients and families.

**David Angert, MD, PhD****Jeffrey Johnson, MD****Lili Shek, MD**