Overview

The Division of Endocrinology at Brown Medical School is undergoing major expansion with the development of the new Hallett Center for Diabetes and Endocrinology, a Bone Density Unit with state-of-the-art diagnostic and osteoporosis management capabilities, an outpatient Clinical Research Unit, and the new Diabetes and Endocrinology Research Laboratories. The Hallett Center was created in 2001 in response to a recognized urgent need for a directed program on diabetes mellitus. Recognizing the links between diabetes and other endocrine diseases, the Hallett Center is structured to integrate programs on diabetes and the full spectrum of endocrine disorders. The Center has been designed to include an outpatient facility providing patients and referring physicians with access to endocrinologists and multiple other subspecialists, a patient education program, and inpatient services, which are coordinated with the educational, clinical and basic research activities of the Division of Endocrinology.

Faculty Members

FULL-TIME FACULTY
(Hospital and Foundation Based)

Robert J. Smith, M.D., Director, Professor, Rhode Island Hospital, University Medicine Foundation
Linda Bausserman, Ph.D., Associate Professor, The Miriam Hospital
Dominic Corrigan, M.D., Clinical Assistant Professor, Rhode Island Hospital, University Medicine Foundation
Geetha Gopalakrishnan, M.D., Assistant Professor, Rhode Island Hospital, University Medicine Foundation
James V. Hennessey, M.D., Associate Professor, Associate Director for Clinical Education, Rhode Island Hospital, University Medicine Foundation
Marc J. Laufgraben, M.D., Clinical Assistant Professor, Associate Director for Clinical Care, Rhode Island Hospital, University Medicine Foundation
Paul Levinson, M.D., Associate Professor, Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island
David B. MacLean, M.D., Adjunct Associate Professor, Rhode Island Hospital, University Medicine Foundation
Lu-Guang Luo, M.D., Assistant Professor, RIH
Eduardo A. Nilnii, Ph.D., Associate Professor, RIH

VOLUNTEER FACULTY

Padma Balasubramanian, M.D., Clinical Assistant Professor, Rhode Island Hospital
Lucinda Barnard, M.D., Clinical Assistant Professor, Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island
Robert Dobrzynski, M.D., Clinical Professor, The Miriam Hospital
Charles Eil, M.D., Ph.D., Clinical Associate Professor, Roger Williams Medical Center
Michael Hein, M.D., Clinical Instructor, Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island
Charles B. Kahn, M.D., Clinical Professor, The Miriam Hospital
Dennis Krauss, M.D., Clinical Assistant Professor, The Miriam Hospital
Valerie Thomas, M.D., Clinical Assistant Professor, The Miriam Hospital

ADJUNCT FACULTY

Douglas P. Kiel, M.D., Ph.D., Adjunct Associate Professor, Rhode Island Hospital
Joseph Tucci, M.D., Adjunct Professor, Roger Williams Medical Center
FACULTY TRANSITIONS

New Faculty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Former Position</th>
<th>Faculty Rank</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dominic Corrigan, M.D.</td>
<td>Chief, Endocrine Division</td>
<td>Clinical Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Abington Memorial Hospital, Philadelphia</td>
<td>Professor of Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Medical Director, Abington Memorial Hospital and</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Diabetes Teaching Center, Philadelphia</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Dobrzynski, M.D.</td>
<td>Fellow, Albany Medical Center</td>
<td>Clinical Instructor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marc Laufgraben, M.D.</td>
<td>Private Practice</td>
<td>Clinical Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Providence, RI</td>
<td>Professor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geetha Gopalakrishnan, M.D.</td>
<td>Fellow, Stanford University</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
</tr>
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National and International Honors and Recognition of Faculty

Linda Bausserman, Ph.D.
Invited Presentation:
- “Advances in Prevention through Optimal Lipid Lowering”, New York, NY

Geetha Gopalakrishnan, M.D.
Invited Presentation:
- “Vertical Transmission of HIV”, Indian Medical Association, Chennai, India

James V. Hennessey, M.D.
- Listed in Top Doctors in Rhode Island 2002, May edition of Rhode Island Monthly
- Listed in Guide to Top Doctors
- Recipient of Air National Guard Medicine Man Award
- Program Director, New England Thyroid Club, Annual Meeting

Invited Presentations:
- “Selective Estrogen Receptor Modulation: Applications in the Post-Menopausal Woman after WHI”, Medical Grand Rounds, Saint Raphael’s Hospital, New Haven CT
- Program Chair and Moderator, Rhode Island American College of Physicians Annual Meeting, Warwick, RI, April 2003
- “Thyroid Nodules and Osteoporosis Updates 2003”, Rhode Island Academy of Family Practice Annual Update, Groton, CT

Marc J. Laufgraben, M.D.
- Editorial Board, Internal Medicine and Critical Care Pocketbook
- Co-chair, Rhode Island Chronic Care Collaborative
- Faculty, National Diabetes Education Initiative
- Editorial Board, Tarascon Pocket Pharmacopoeia

Invited Presentations:
- “Osteoporosis 2001”, Seminar by the Sea, University of Rhode Island College of Pharmacy, Newport, RI
- “Why Do Diabetics Develop Foot Problems?”, Postgraduate Course on The Challenge of Managing Diabetes Mellitus, Brown Medical School, Providence, RI
- “Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease: The Role of Glycemic Management”, Medical Grand Rounds, Rhode Island Hospital, Providence, RI
- “Diabetes and Dyslipidemia: New Treatment Guidelines”, Rhode Island Department of Health, Diabetes Control Program, Providence, RI
- “Diabetes: Are You At Risk? ”NBC10 Health Fit Expo, Providence, RI
- “Update in Diabetes: New Options for Glycemic Management”, ACP-ASIM Fall Update in Internal Medicine, Newport, RI
- “Calcimimetics in the Management of Parathyroid Disorders”, Endocrine Grand Rounds, Rhode Island Hospital, Providence, RI
• “Combination Therapy for Type 2 Diabetes”, Medical Grand Rounds Rhode Island Hospital, Providence, RI
• “Update on the Metabolic Syndrome”, Staff Grand Rounds South County Hospital, Wakefield, RI
• Plenary Lecture: “Caring for Adults with Diabetes”, Rhode Island Chronic Care Collaborative, CME Learning Session, Warwick, RI

Paul Levinson, M.D.
• Listed in Guide to Top Doctors
• Recipient of Service Award from the Diabetes Foundation of Rhode Island
• Member, Publications Committee, American Association of Clinical Endocrinology

Lu-Guang Luo, M.D.
• Associate Editor, Journal of Alzheimer’s Disease

Presentations:
• “Effects of Thyroid Hormone on Food Intake, Hypothalamic Na/K ATPase Activity and ATP Content”, 2002 The Endocrine Society Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA
• “Activation of EGF Receptors in Pancreatic Cells by Thyrotropin Releasing Hormone (TRH): Cross-talk Between Neuropeptide and Growth Factor Receptors”, 2002 Endocrine Society Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA

David B. MacLean, M.D.
• Organized and chaired symposium on “The Andropause: Impact of Aging in Males” at the 3rd International Workshop on Musculoskeletal and Neuronal Interactions (ISMNI), Corfu, Greece

Eduardo A. Nillni, Ph.D.
• Recipient of The Bruce Selya Award for Research Excellence

Invited Presentations:
• “Leptin Stimulates the Expression and Biosynthesis of Prohormone Convertases 1 and 2 (PC1 and PC2) in Hypothalamic Neurons”, Taos, NM
• “The Biology of ProThyrotropin Releasing Hormone” Beth Israel-Deaconess Hospital and Harvard Medical School
• “Processing of ProTRH and New Biological Products”, Tufts University Medical School
• “Leptin Action on TRH Neurons” Millennium Pharmaceuticals, Cambridge, Massachusetts
• “Obesity and ProTRH Regulation”, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Robert J. Smith, M.D.
• Co-Chair, 1st Joint Symposium of the Growth Hormone Research Society and the International Society for IGF Research, Boston, MA
• Editorial Board, Journal of Growth Hormone and IGF Research
• Member, Special Programs Committee, The Endocrine Society
• Co-organized Brown Medical School CME course on “The Challenge of Managing Diabetes Mellitus: A Multidisciplinary Approach to the Diabetic Foot”

Invited Presentations:
• “Confronting Diabetes as an Epidemic Disease of Our Time”, Rhode Island Hospital Founders’ Day
• “Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus: Linking Pathophysiology and Therapy”, Landmark Medical Center, Woonsocket, RI
• “You Have Diabetes: What you Can Do and Why You Should”, Lions Club Sight Awareness Program, Cranston, RI
• “Epidemiology, Pathophysiology, and Therapy of Diabetes Mellitus” in CME course on “The Challenge of Managing Diabetes Mellitus: A Multidisciplinary Approach to the Diabetic Foot”, Providence, RI
• Visiting Professor at University of Cincinnati, Department of Pediatric Endocrinology; lectured on “Significance and Molecular Basis of Insulin and IGF-1 Specificity Mechanisms”
• “Role of Grb10 in Insulin Action”, 1st International Conference on Molecular Basis of Metabolic Regulation, Bari, Italy
• “Insulin and Glucose Management in the Diabetic Surgical Patient”, Rhode Island Hospital Surgical Grand Rounds
• “Type 2 Diabetes and the Metabolic Syndrome: Diagnosis, Treatment, and Prevention”, Internal Medicine Update, Keynote Speaker
## Research and other Scholarly Activities

### FACULTY MEMBERS OF STUDY SECTIONS AND ADVISORY COMMITTEES

**Geetha Gopalakrishnan, M.D.**
- HIV Prevention Trials Network Perinatal Working Group, AIDS Clinical Trial Group

**James V. Hennessey, M.D.**
- Advisor, American Thyroid Association

**Douglas P. Kiel, M.D., Ph.D.**
- Data and Safety Monitoring Board, “Testosterone for prevention of fracture in men with osteoporosis”
- Ad Hoc Reviewer, NIH Study Section, Epidemiology and Disease Control 3

**Paul Levinson, M.D.**
- Appointed to the Collaborative Practice Committee of the Rhode Island Department of Health and the Rhode Island Boards of Medicine and Pharmacy

**Eduardo A. Nillni, Ph.D.**
- Member of the Canada Research Chairs Program College of Reviewers, Canada Institutes of Health.
- Ad Hoc Reviewer, Endocrinology and Reproductive & Nutritional and Metabolic Sciences Study Section (NIH, SSS-T-10)
- Ad Hoc Reviewer, Molecular and Developmental and Cellular Neuroscience-1 Study Section, NIH
- Ad Hoc Reviewer, Special Study section, Molecular and Developmental and Cellular Neuroscience

**Robert J. Smith, M.D.**
- Appointed to the Diabetes Professional Advisory Council of the Rhode Island Department of Health

### TEACHING ACTIVITIES

#### EDUCATION HONORS

**Geetha Gopalakrishnan, M.D.**
- Dean’s Teaching Excellence Award from Brown Medical School

**James V. Hennessey, M.D.**
- Dean’s Teaching Excellence Award from Brown Medical School

**Marc J. Laufgraben, M.D.**
- Dean’s Teaching Excellence Award from Brown Medical School

#### TEACHING RESPONSIBILITIES

**Lectures to Medical Housestaff**

- Geetha Gopalakrishnan, M.D.
- James V. Hennessey, M.D.
- Marc J. Laufgraben, M.D.
- Robert J. Smith, M.D.

### Endocrinology Teaching Attending Rounds

- Geetha Gopalakrishnan, M.D.
- James V. Hennessey, M.D.
- Marc J. Laufgraben, M.D.
- Robert J. Smith, M.D.

### Medical Residency Teaching Attending

- James Hennessey, M.D.

### Brown Medical School Pathophysiology Course

- James V. Hennessey, M.D., Director
- Geetha Gopalakrishnan, M.D., Participant
- Marc J. Laufgraben, M.D., Participant
- Robert J. Smith, M.D., Participant

### Introduction to MCB Faculty Trainer Research

- Eduardo A. Nillni, Ph.D.
- Robert J. Smith, M.D.

### Introduction to Pathobiology Trainer Research

- Robert J. Smith, M.D.

### Graduate Thesis Advising

- Eduardo A. Nillni, Ph.D.
- Robert J. Smith, M.D.

### Undergraduate Thesis Advising

- Robert J. Smith, M.D.
- Eduardo A. Nillni, Ph.D.

### PUBLICATIONS

**Linda Bausserman, Ph.D.**

**James Hennessey, M.D.**
• Hennessy JV. L-Thyroxine a New Drug? Since when? How could that be? Thyroid 2003; 13(3):279-282

Marc Laufragen, M.D.

Eduardo Nillni, Ph.D.

Robert Smith, M.D.
• Ling PR, Mueller C, Smith RJ, Bistrian, BR. Hyperglycemia induced by glucose infusion causes hepatic oxidative stress and systemic inflammation, but not STAT3 or MAP kinase activation in liver in rats. Metabolism 2003; 52:868-874.
<table>
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**BASIC RESEARCH**

Lu-Guang Luo
- Effects of Novel Compounds on Metabolism of Rats in Vivo and In Vitro. Pfizer
- Throtropin Releasing Hormone (TRH) in the Alzheimer Hippocampus. Alzheimer’s Association
- Effects of Novel Compounds on Neurons. Pfizer

Eduardo Nillni, M.D.
- ProTRH Gene Transcription and Biosynthesis by Leptin. NIH/Yale
- Regulation of Hypothalamic POMC by Leptin. Beth Israel Deaconess
- The Role of PreproTRH-Derived Peptides in Cocaine Action. NIH/Yale
- ProTRH Sorting to the Regulated Secretory Pathway. NIH/NDS

Robert Smith, M.D.
- Role of GRB10 As an Insulin Receptor Adapter Protein. National Institutes of Health
- Nutrition, Cytokines and Anabolic Signaling Mechanisms. National Institutes of Health
- Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowship Program. American Diabetes Association

**CLINICAL RESEARCH**

James Hennessy, M.D.
- A Multicenter, Double Blind Randomized Placebo-Controlled Study to Evaluate the Safety and Efficacy of Zoledronic Acid in the Treatment of Osteoporosis in Postmenopausal Women Taking Calcium and Vitamin D. Novartis
- Attenuation of Muscle Wasting with Growth Hormone. NIH
- Randomized Multicenter Parallel Group Study to Determine if Knowledge of Baseline Vertebral Fracture Prevalence (As Determined by Hologic IVA) and Bone Turnover Marker Levels Improve Persistence with Actonel 5 mg Daily Therapy in Patients With GIO. Aventis
- A Randomized Multicenter Double-Blind, Placebo Controlled Parallel Group, Multi-Dose Study of the Safety and Efficiency of Synthroid in Patients with Mild Thyroid Failure. Knoll

Mark Laugraben, M.D.
- An Assessment of the Calcimimetic Agent AMG 073 for the Treatment of Subjects with Parathyroid Carcinoma or Intractable Primary Hyperparathyroidism. Amgen

Douglas Kiel, M.D.
- A Multicenter Prospective Study to Assess the impact of Physician's Reinforcement on the Subject's Compliance and Persistence on Treatment using Feedback on Bone Markers in Previously Undiagnosed Post Menopausal Osteoporotic Women Treated with Risedronate. Hoescht
- Double Blind Placebo Controlled Dose Ranging Trial to Evaluate the Efficacy of Atorvast. Pfizer
- Teriparatide Compared with Alendronate on Spine Bone Mineral Density in Postmenopausal Women with Osteoporosis. Eli Lilly and Company
- An 18 month Double-Blind Placebo Controlled Phase III Trial with a 12 month Interim Analysis of the Effect of Recombinant Human Parathyroid Hormone (ALX1-11) On Fracture Incidence in Women with Postmenopausal Osteoporosis. NPS/Allelix/Quintiles
- An 18month Open Label Extension Study of the Safety and Efficacy of Recombinant Human Parathyroid Hormone, rhPTH (1-84), ALX1-11 in women with Postmenopausal Osteoporosis who Participated in Protocol ALX1-11-93001. NPS/Allelix/Quintiles
- A Randomized Double-Blind, Multicenter Study to Compare the Safety and Efficacy of Alendronate Sodium, 10mg Daily, 35 mg Twice Weekly and 70mg Once Weekly for the Treatment of Osteoporosis in Post Menopausal Women. Merck
- Phase II Double Blind Placebo-Controlled Trial of the Safety Toleration and Efficacy of CP-336,156 and Raloxifene 60mg/d for the Prevention of Bone Loss in Postmenopausal Women. Pfizer