

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL MEDICINE

Sandeep Vijan, M.D., Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, Medical School, is recommended for promotion to Associate Professor of Internal Medicine, with tenure, Department of Internal Medicine, Medical School.

Academic Degrees:

M.S.	1997	University of Michigan School of Public Health
M.D.	1992	University of Michigan
B.S.	1989	University of Michigan

Professional Record:

1999-Present	Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan
1997-1999	Lecturer, Department of Internal Medicine University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Vijan has a strong record of both clinical and research teaching. He is consistently rated in the top 1-2 quintiles of faculty by internal medicine residents. He has also been active in teaching medical students. Most of this teaching occurs during third-year clerkships (for which he receives excellent evaluations), but he has also provided lectures or led small group discussions for first- and second-year students on cancer screening, diagnostic testing, and health policy. He lectures nationally on clinical topics, particularly standards of care for type 2 diabetes and he is the author of several national guidelines on diabetes management. In addition, he is the author of the American College of Physicians Physician Information and Education Resource (PIER) module on management of type 2 diabetes, a unique real-time interactive diabetes management tool that is the most frequently cited and accessed of over 320 disease modules. He also authors the chapter on management of hypertension in diabetes for *BMJ Clinical Evidence*.

Dr. Vijan's research teaching is also a major focus of his career. He has mentored several post-residency research fellows and five residents in their senior research projects. He takes particular pride in his close mentoring and collaborative relationships with research fellows over the past few years; three of these fellows are now faculty members at various research institutions and they continue to have close collaborative ties. He does a variety of formal classroom teaching, mostly in small group settings. He has developed a curriculum on research design, methods, and study interpretation that has been given to research fellows (Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars and K30 Trainees), along with second-year and fourth-year students.

Research: Dr. Vijan's primary research interest is in the combined methodologies to examine and define standards of care for chronic disease, with a focus on identifying factors that allow therapy and standards to be optimally individualized based on risk profile and treatment preferences. His primary contributions have been in the area of defining standards of care in diabetes treatment and colorectal cancer screening. He has produced scholarly work that has

already influenced practice and policy. In the case of type 2 diabetes, his work has helped to re-define key quality measures used by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) in its report cards. Dr. Vijan's work modeling the long-term effectiveness of glucose control in diabetes helped re-define our understanding of the relationship between hemoglobin A1c and end-stage microvascular complications and has also influenced standards for intervening on elevations of A1c in clinical practice. His work examining the effectiveness and cost of retinal screening in patients with type 2 diabetes has led to a change in the recommendations for eye screening frequency. Quality of care measures were previously based upon proportion of patients screened annually. Based upon his work, this was changed to stratify risk based on the degree of retinal disease found in prior screening exams. In addition, he has done work examining standards of care for hypertension and hyperlipidemia management in diabetes, and the American College of Physicians has issued guidelines based largely upon this work. In the area of colorectal cancer, his work modeling various screening methods revealed how expected levels of patient adherence could influence the relative merits of competing screening strategies, which contributed to a broader shift towards insurance coverage of colonoscopy as a primary screening option. His work in this area has been cited as high quality in the US Preventive Services Task Force review of colon cancer screening, and led to an invited presentation at the Institute of Medicine.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Vijan S, Hayward RA, Langa KM: The impact of diabetes on work-force participation: Results from a national household sample. *Health Services Research* 39(6):1653-1669, 2004.

Valenstein M, Zeber J, Boehm K, Buttar A, Vijan S: The cost utility of screening for depression in primary care. *Annals of Internal Medicine* 134:345-360, 2001.

Vijan S, Hwang E, Hofer TP, Hayward RA: Which colon cancer screening test? A comparison of costs, effectiveness, and compliance. *American Journal of Medicine* 111:593-601, 2001.

Vijan S, Hofer TP, Hayward RA: A cost-utility analysis of screening intervals for diabetic retinopathy. *JAMA* 283(7):889-896, 2000.

Vijan S, Hofer TP, Hayward RA: Estimated benefits of glycemic control in type 2 diabetes. *Annals of Internal Medicine* 127(9):788-795, 1997.

Service: Dr. Vijan has served on several committees, locally and nationally. He is the project team leader of the University diabetes guidelines, a task to which he has devoted substantial efforts both in the original development and in ongoing revisions. Additionally, he serves as a team member on the preventive care guidelines, with a focus on colorectal cancer screening. He served as chair of the Ann Arbor VA Care Management Committee until its merger with the Care Coordination Committee in 2005. In addition, he has been a member of the VA study section on implementation and management research, which initially began as a special section to review service directed project grants; this has evolved into a full-fledged research portfolio, and he was named the chair of this review committee on its launch to full investigator-initiated status. He also serves on the board overseeing the VA's implementation and management research

portfolio. Dr. Vijan is also a member of the ACP (American College of Physicians) committee on diabetes management topics, including hypertension, hyperlipidemia, and glycemic control. He has served on several committees and subcommittees for the Society of General Internal Medicine, including chairing workshop and abstract committees for the national meeting, and has been an ongoing member of abstract review committees for the VA HSR&D (Health Services Research and Development) national meeting.

Professional Work: In addition to the above, which consume the majority of his time, he also serves on the editorial board of "Medical Care Research and Review," and he reviews for many major medical journals, including *JAMA*, *Annals of Internal Medicine* (for which he was recently commended as being in the top 10% of their reviewers), *Medical Care*, *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, and several other subspecialty journals in diabetes and gastroenterology. He was also a panel member for the National Institutes of Health consensus conference on the management of celiac disease.

External Review:

Reviewer A: "In terms of Dr. Vijan's ranking relative to others at the same career stage and in the same field, I am quite sure that he ranks near the top. In fact, I was somewhat surprised that he was only now being considered for this promotion and would have guessed that he'd been promoted a year or two ago. A person with his qualifications and accomplishments would clearly be promoted to the equivalent of the associate professor level at my institution."

Reviewer B: "I know of few investigators in the field of diabetes and its cardiovascular and microvascular complications, who have had such extensive impact in the understanding of risk factor control effects on the quantitative development of those complications. In addition to his own comments on some of the seminal papers and their application to current guidelines, they are an obligatory referential parameter for the current Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs joint practice guidelines in the field of diabetes care."

Reviewer C: "Dr. Vijan is a national expert in applying rigorous quantitative decision analytic and cost-effectiveness analysis techniques to determine appropriate standards of care for diabetes and other chronic conditions....he is one of the top 3 diabetes health services researchers nationally at the late assistant professor - early associate professor levels."

Reviewer D: "The 1997 paper on the value of lowering A1c was very important to the Diabetes Quality Improvement Program...in developing quality measures for diabetes. The measures developed by this program have become the most advanced best-tested and most widely used set of standardized measure of any disease."

Reviewer E: "In 2004, he was one of an elite group of decision modelers invited to participate in a workshop conducted by the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences....His selection for participation in this invitation-only workshop is a reflection of his national reputation and contributions in this area."

Reviewer F: "...I continue to call upon his expertise relating to the synthesis of evidence in the management of patients with diabetes. I continue to seek out his current research as important to primary care for both diabetes, and for chronic care in general."

Reviewer G: "His findings on the importance of targeting diabetic treatments to patients who most need them are incredibly important contributions to the field....Modelers with the sophistication to produce work such as that Sandeep has produced are very rare...I am confident we would jump at the opportunity to hire Sandeep if he became available."

Summary of Recommendation:

In summary, Dr. Vijan's important research in the areas of diabetes and colon cancer is nationally recognized and has contributed to changes in national guidelines. He continues to make significant contributions and is sought out by the medical community for his expertise. He is a dedicated mentor to junior faculty and researchers and a valued member of the general medicine faculty, providing exemplary service. I enthusiastically recommend Sandeep Vijan, M.D., for promotion to Associate Professor, with tenure, in the Department of Internal Medicine.



Allen S. Lichter, M.D., Dean
*Newman Family Professor
of Radiation Oncology*

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