

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL MEDICINE

Elif A. Oral, 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.	2007	University of Michigan School of Public Health
M.D.	1992	Istanbul University

Professional Record:

2002-present	Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan
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Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Oral is actively involved in education through the mentoring of individuals in research projects and by providing didactic and clinical training to students, residents and fellows. She participates in the second-year endocrine sequence for medical students, lecturing on obesity and facilitating small group discussions of endocrine cases. She has also given a number of intramural lectures, grand rounds presentations, and clinical conference presentations. Dr. Oral's evaluations for her clinical teaching are excellent, and in recognition of her teaching skills, she was asked to participate in the most recent "Mini Med" series by giving the kickoff lecture on obesity.

Research: Dr. Oral's scholarly work focuses on obesity and lipodystrophy syndromes, with a special emphasis on the role of leptin responsiveness in clinical approaches. She also leads the translational research efforts of the University of Michigan Bariatric Program. Dr. Oral has 45 peer-reviewed publications with 18 as first or senior author, plus five book chapters, and three patents. She is principal investigator on an NIH R01 grant, as well as numerous clinical trials, and was a prior recipient of an NIH R03 award. Recognition of her expertise is evident in her numerous invited national talks and her extensive peer review service for prestigious journals such as *New England Journal of Medicine*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, and *Nature Clinical Practice Endocrinology & Metabolism*. Dr. Oral also served on the editorial board for *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism*, and as an ad hoc member of an NIH study section.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Fajans SS, Herman WH, Oral EA: Insufficient sensitivity of hemoglobin A1C determination in diagnosis or screening of early diabetic states. *Metabolism* 2010 Aug 17. [epub ahead of print].

Oral EA, Javor ED, Ding L, Uzel G, Cochran EK, Young JR, DePaoli AM, Holland SM, Gorden P: Leptin replacement therapy modulates circulating lymphocyte subsets and cytokine responsiveness in severe lipodystrophy. *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism* 91:621–628, 2006.

Petersen KF, Oral EA, Dufour S, Befroy D, Ariyan C, Yu C, Cline GW, DePaoli AM, Taylor SI, Gorden P, Shulman GI: Leptin reverses insulin resistance and hepatic steatosis in patients with severe lipodystrophy. *Journal of Clinical Investigation* 109:1345-1350, 2002.

Agarwal AK, Arioglu E [Oral EA], de Almeida S, Akkoc N, Taylor SI, Bowcock AM, Barnes RI, Garg A: AGPAT2 is mutated in congenital generalized lipodystrophy linked to chromosome 9q34. *Nature Genetics* 31:21-23, 2002.

Oral EA, Simha V, Ruiz E, Andewelt A, Premkumar A, Snell P, Wagner A, DePaoli A, Reitman M, Taylor SI, Gorden P, Garg A: Leptin-replacement therapy for lipodystrophy. *N Engl J Med* 346:570-578, 2002.

Service: In addition to her scholarly work, Dr. Oral remains active as a physician in the endocrinology clinics and inpatient and consult services, and has served as the director of the MEND Obesity Rehabilitation and Weight Management Program since 2006. Since 2005, she has also served as the medical director of the UMHS Bariatric Surgery Program. In this role, Dr. Oral was responsible for the development of clinical protocols, coordination of clinical care for patients, and the development of translational research for the program.

External Review:

Reviewer A: "...Dr. Oral is among six clinical investigators worldwide studying the in vivo actions of leptin in humans. Her findings have provided a framework for investigating the actions of leptin in polygenic obesity, NAFLD and diabetes...Dr. Oral is undoubtedly among the best clinical investigators, and a leader on the biology of leptin in humans."

Reviewer B: "Overall, Dr. Oral's research is of the highest caliber and is published in top-ranked journals. She has made seminal observations on the therapeutic use of leptin in ameliorating metabolic complications in lipodystrophic states, and has opened the field to the concept of leptin therapy for fatty liver diseases."

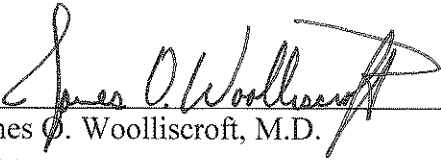
Reviewer C: "She holds a very special position at the University of Michigan where she works closely with others to help translate basic discoveries to the bedside. She does this while maintaining clinical and teaching excellence."

Reviewer D: "Her work has been consistently excellent, accurate, and providing important insights and new paradigms for clinical applications. I must also comment on her extremely positive and generous demeanor and her unmatched ability to interact and collaborate with a diverse group of scientists and scholars."

Reviewer E: “From reading her papers and listening to her speak, it is obvious she is an innovative thinker who has a well-developed view of the entire scientific process. NIH funding in the area of metabolism during and after weight loss is growing and her recent excellent score on her R01 is evidence that her dedication to her field has paid off.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Oral is a nationally recognized scholar in the field of obesity research and the role of leptin in clinical approaches to lipodystrophy syndromes. In addition to establishing a track record of publications and funding, she also has made important contributions to teaching and clinical service. Therefore, Dr. Oral is an excellent candidate for promotion to associate professor of internal medicine, with tenure, Department of Internal Medicine, Medical School.



James O. Woolliscroft, M.D.

Dean

Lyle C. Roll Professor of Medicine

May 2011