

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL MEDICINE

Milagros Samaniego, M.D., associate professor of internal medicine, with tenure, Department of Internal Medicine, Medical School, is recommended for promotion to professor of internal medicine, with tenure, Department of Internal Medicine, Medical School.

Academic Degrees:

M.D.	1984	Facultad de Medicina, Universidad de Panama, Panama City, Republic of Panama
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Professional Record:

2009-Present	Associate Professor of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan
2009-Present	Medical Director, Kidney and Kidney Pancreas Transplantation, University of Michigan
2009-Present	Director, Transplant Fellowship Program, Department of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan
2008-2009	Associate Professor of Medicine and Surgery, University of Wisconsin
2005-2009	Associate Director, Transplant Medicine Fellowship, University of Wisconsin
2007-2009	Medical Director, UW Desensitization Center, University of Wisconsin
2007-2009	Chief of Transplant Services, University of Wisconsin
2005-2009	Associate Director of Nephrology, University of Wisconsin
2004-2009	Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, University of Wisconsin
2000-2004	Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Johns Hopkins University
2000-2004	Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology, Johns Hopkins University
1997-2000	Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, Maryland
1997-2000	Research Associate, Department of Pathology, Johns Hopkins University
1997-2000	Research Associate, Department of Medicine, Johns Hopkins University

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Samaniego is a gifted speaker, educator, and mentor. Throughout her career she has guided eleven fellows, many of whom now are faculty members at prestigious academic institutions. She has been a visiting professor ten times since joining the University less than two years ago and has given five invited lectures. Dr. Samaniego is well regarded by the nephrology and transplant fellows in Transplant as evidenced by her outstanding evaluations scores.

Research: Dr. Samaniego's clinical and research interests focus on experimental and clinical antibody-mediated rejection, desensitization protocols, ABO-incompatible kidney transplantation and other treatment options for highly sensitized kidney transplant candidates including pair-kidney exchange programs. More recently, she has expanded her work on anti-HLA antibodies to other solid organ and cellular transplants including liver, pancreas and pancreatic islets. Dr. Samaniego is also researching the use of new therapeutic agents such as complement system

inhibitors for the treatment of antibody-mediated rejection, and the development of treatment protocols for chronic active antibody-mediated rejection. Dr. Samaniego has a long established history of successful grant funding from a variety of sources including private funds as well as NIH grants. Dr. Samaniego is an associate editor for *Transplantation Reviews*, *American Journal of Transplantation*, and the *Advances in Chronic Kidney Disease*. Dr. Samaniego is also an ad-hoc reviewer for several publications including the *American Journal of Kidney Diseases*, *Transplantation*, *Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology*, the *Journal of the American Society of Nephrology*, *Annals of Internal Medicine*, and the *New England Journal of Medicine*, among others.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Bloom D, Pauly K, Davis Z, Kwun J, Fechner J, Colleen Hayes, Samaniego M and Knechtle SJ: BAFF Dysregulation in Renal Transplant Patients Treated With Alemtuzumab. *Am J Transplant* 9:1835-1845, 2009.

Pascual J, Pirsch JD, Odorico JS, Torrealba JR, Djamali A, Becker YT, Voss B, Levenson GE, Knechtle SJ, Sollinger HW and Samaniego M: Alemtuzumab Does Not Prevent Antibody-Mediated Rejection After Simultaneous Kidney-Pancreas Transplantation. *Transplantation* 87:125-132, 2009.

Pascual J, Samaniego MD, Torrealba JR, Odorico JS, Djamali A, Becker YT, Voss B, Levenson GE, Knechtle S, Sollinger H and Pirsch JD: Antibody-mediated rejection of the kidney after simultaneous pancreas-kidney transplantation. *J Am Soc Nephrol* 19:812-824, 2008.

Pascual J, Mezrich J, Djamali A, Levenson G, Chin LT, Torrealba J, Bloom D, Voss B, Becker BN, Knechtle S, Sollinger H, Pirsch J and Samaniego M: Alemtuzumab induction and recurrence of glomerular disease after kidney transplantation. *Transplantation* 83: 1429-1434, 2007.

Sonnenday CJ, Warren DS, Samaniego M, Haas M, King KE and Montgomery RA: Plasmapheresis, CMV hyperimmune globulin, and anti-CD20 allow ABO-incompatible renal transplantation without splenectomy. *Am J Transplant* 4:1315-1322, 2004.

Service: Dr. Samaniego sets the standard for service. In the past two years she has served as chair or co-chair for twelve different national educational committees or programs. These include the American Society of Transplantation Education Committee and the Women's Health Community of Practice. She has been on several national study sections including being a Stage 1 reviewer for NIH Challenge Grants in Health and Science Research. Dr. Samaniego is medical director of the Kidney and Kidney Pancreas Transplantation program and serves on U of M's Transplant Executive Committee. She is also the program director of the U of M Transplant Fellowship. In addition to her service, research, and administrative duties, she has a large clinical load and follows transplant patients once or twice weekly in at the Taubman Center. She also spends eight weeks as the attending on the inpatient service. Finally, she manages all the clinical programs for transplantation in the Division of Nephrology, and coordinates these programs with those of the other members of the Transplant Center.

External Reviewer:

Reviewer A: “Her knowledge base in transplantation and immunology is tremendous...She is deeply engaged as an Associate Editor of the American Journal of Transplantation and very involved in publishing...She is in the top 5% of the nation when it comes to thoughts on transplantation immunology, B cell biology and as an educator.”

Reviewer B: “Dr. Samaniego has established herself as an authority on novel treatment strategies for antibody mediated rejection (AMR). This is an area of growing interest in the transplant community...Indeed, Dr. Samaniego was a key speaker at the recent FDA symposium of AMR, indicating that she is seen by her peers as an important member of this community.”

Reviewer C: “Dr. Samaniego has an exemplary teaching record with invaluable contributions to the society in organizing symposiums and workshops and teaching fellows within her institution and at the society level. She has done an exemplary job on the education committee for the American Society of Transplantation driving the society’s education mission and promoting public awareness for transplantation.”

Reviewer D: “...Dr. Milagros Samaniego-Picota is a dynamic clinical scholar and educator in the field of Transplantation with a national reputation. Her research focus is in areas of major importance with particular expertise in anti-body mediated rejection. She has been funded to perform clinical studies and has published significant papers in this and related areas. She has also been actively engaged in patient care and has recognized expertise in the general care of the transplant recipient...She has had major involvement in the most important societies in North American Transplantation, where she has emerging leadership and programmatic roles.”

Reviewer E: “Dr. Samaniego-Picota has created a highly successful immune pre-conditioning (desensitization) program at the University of Michigan, the very first one in the State of Michigan. Her efforts have already borne fruit and several patients who otherwise would not have received the life saving organ allograft have been successfully transplanted....As the Center Investigator of the Genomics of Transplantation Cooperative Research Program, she has established funded collaboration with leading NIH investigators, and contributed to the creation of the U of M Tissue Bank.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Samaniego is a dedicated and gifted transplant physician scientist. Her contributions have improved transplant patient care. She is recognized internationally and gives back to the field through society contributions and the mentorship of developing physicians. It is with the highest enthusiasm that we support Dr. Samaniego’s promotion to professor, with tenure, in the Department of Internal Medicine, Medical School.



James O. Woolliscroft, M.D.

Dean

Lyle C. Roll Professor of Medicine

May 2011