

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL MEDICINE

Vahakn B. Shahinian, 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.	2005	University of Texas, Galveston
M.D.	1994	University of Toronto, Canada
B.S.	1990	University of Toronto, Canada

Professional Record:

2006-present	Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan
2002-2006	Assistant Professor of Medicine, University of Texas, Galveston, Texas

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Shahinian has participated in teaching at different learner levels, from medical students to fellows, and taught both didactically and at the bedside. Through lectures, discussion at conferences, and at the bedside, he has made a substantial contribution towards helping the fellows in nephrology think more deeply about the evidence behind their clinical decisions. Dr. Shahinian is the leader of the fellowship's journal club and spends a considerable amount of time mentoring each second year fellow in their participation. Last year he was nominated for the annual fellows teaching award. He was also giving lectures a number of times to the medical students and fellows. He consistently is rated above a 4.5 on a 5 point scale.

Research: Dr. Shahinian is a health services researcher with a focus on use of large national administrative health care datasets. One of the major themes of his research has been the overuse of androgen deprivation therapy for prostate cancer. Using the Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results (SEER)-Medicare database, which is a large dataset overseen by the NCI that includes cancer registry data linked to Medicare claims, he developed a method to identify use of androgen deprivation therapy. The method is now posted on the SEER-Medicare website and has been used by many other researchers. Over the last five years, his work in this area has led to two first author papers in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, as well as a number of other high impact publications, such as in the *Archives of Internal Medicine*, *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, and *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*. Over the same period, he obtained two R01 grants from the NCI and a Research Scholar grant from the American Cancer Society. Dr. Shahinian is also an ad-hoc reviewer for publications in the *BJU International*, *Journal of Urology*, *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, *Journal of the American Society of*

Nephrology, American Journal of Kidney Diseases, Cancer, World Journal of Urology, BMC Cancer, and the International Journal of Urology.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Shahinian VB, Kuo YF, Gilbert S: Reimbursement policy and androgen deprivation therapy for prostate cancer. *New England Journal of Medicine* (in press).

Ketchandji M, Kuo YF, Shahinian VB, Goodwin JS: Cause of death in older men after a diagnosis of prostate cancer. *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society* 57:24-30, 2009.

Kuo YF, Goodwin JS, Shahinian VB: Gonadotropin-releasing hormone agonist use in men without a cancer registry diagnosis of prostate cancer. *BMC Health Services Research* 8:146, 2008.

Shahinian VB, Kuo YF, Freeman JL, Orihuela E, Goodwin JS: Urologist characteristics predict use of androgen deprivation therapy for prostate cancer. *Journal of Clinical Oncology* 25(34):5359-5365, 2007.

Taneja S, Mandayam S, Kayani ZZ, Kuo YF, Shahinian VB: Comparison of cancer stage at diagnosis in dialysis patients versus the general population. *Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology* 2:1008-1013, 2007.

Service: Dr. Shahinian has served on the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center Survivorship Steering Committee. He has also participated in peer review service for grants submitted to the Michigan Institute for Clinical and Health Research. His clinical work consists of two half day clinics per week. One clinic is a continuity clinic for the long-term follow-up of kidney transplant patients. The other clinic involves care of kidney transplants in the first several weeks after the surgery. In addition, he serves as the attending on the inpatient team four weeks per year.

External Review:

Reviewer A: "I am impressed by the breadth of Dr. Shahinian's academic accomplishments, which include funding, publications, and abstract presentations in the areas of prostate cancer, chronic kidney disease, and renal transplantation. He is a peer reviewer for numerous high-impact journals and serves on the editorial board of *Advances in Chronic Kidney Disease*."

Reviewer B: "Dr. Shahinian has been successful at obtaining research funding. He has obtained 2 R-01 awards as principal investigator and has been principal investigator of an American Cancer Society grant. Dr. Shahinian has received several local teaching awards, demonstrating his commitment and success at teaching. He was also elected to the Southern Society of Clinical Investigation, suggesting some recognition of his research."

Reviewer C: "...Dr. Shahinian has generated important scientific hypotheses, earned peer-reviewed funding, carefully designed and executed study methodologies, thoughtfully interpreted

results, and carried efforts to fruition with meaningful peer-reviewed publications in high-impact journals.”

Reviewer D: “...Dr. Shahinian’s work clearly documents the impact of ADT on fracture and the role of [the] urologist on the use of ADT. Most clinicians now are aware of the risks of fracture following ADT and give their patients meds to prevent fractures.”

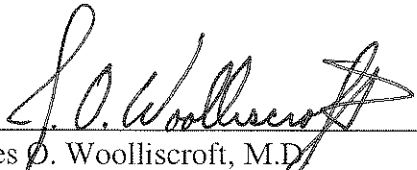
Reviewer E: “The importance of Dr Shahinian’s work is shown in several ways. First, he has now had 2 first author publications in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, as well as publications in other prominent journals such as the *Journal of Clinical Oncology* and the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*. In addition, he has garnered excellent funding for his work. He received grants from the National Cancer Institute in 2005 and in 2009, and is also funded by the American Cancer Society. For a cancer related health outcomes researcher, this is an enviable record indeed.”

Reviewer F: “...Dr. Shahinian’s productivity as proven by his publications and funding record, combined with his abstracts and peer reviewer [sic], provide evidence that he has achieved national recognition in his field at least on the level with others at the rank of Associate Professor at other major academic institutions.”

Reviewer G: “His work is very high quality as is evidenced both by the journals in which it is published and by the number of times her work has been cited in the peer review literature. Both point to a significant contribution to the field of health services research as well as in treatment of prostate cancer and chronic kidney disease.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Shahinian is an outstanding physician scientist. He is an educator with proven teaching and clinical abilities and has an exemplary research program. He has demonstrated excellent academic growth and we enthusiastically support his proposed promotion to associate professor, with tenure, in the Department of Internal Medicine.


James D. Woolliscroft, M.D.
Dean
Lyle C. Roll Professor of Medicine

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