

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL MEDICINE
DEPARTMENT OF NEUROLOGY

Deborah A. Levine, M.D., assistant professor of internal medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, and assistant professor of neurology, Department of Neurology, Medical School, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of internal medicine, with tenure, Department of Internal Medicine, and associate professor of neurology, without tenure, Department of Neurology, Medical School.

Academic Degrees:

M.P.H.	2005	Harvard School of Public Health
M.D.	1996	Mount Sinai School of Medicine
B.A.	1992	Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME

Professional Record:

2009-present	Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine and Assistant Professor of Neurology, University of Michigan
2007-2009	Assistant Professor of Medicine and Assistant Professor of Health Services Management & Policy, The Ohio State University
2007-2009	Adjunct Assistant Professor of Medicine, University of Alabama at Birmingham
2002-2007	Assistant Professor of Medicine, University of Alabama at Birmingham
2000-2002	Clinical Instructor of Medicine, Tufts University

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Levine has demonstrated a passion and commitment to teaching. As a general internist with clinical and research expertise in stroke, she teaches neurology students, residents, and fellows about the medical management and complications of stroke patients. Her evaluations consistently praise her for her supportive teaching techniques. For the past seven years, she has been the faculty advisor in charge of the Stroke Journal Club. She has devoted approximately 10% of her inpatient and outpatient effort to teaching and will be increasing that effort to roughly 20% in FY17 as she was appointed as an associate director of the University of Michigan Medical School Path of Excellence in Health Policy. In this role, she will mentor medical students on health policy. She has been invited to give educational presentations at national and international meetings in settings such as the International Stroke Conference and the American Heart Association Scientific Sessions. She was also asked to serve as an expert for the Joint Commission's Speak Up About Stroke Campaign, a national educational campaign to educate physicians.

Research: Dr. Levine's research focuses on the epidemiology, prevention and care of cardiovascular disease with a focus on vascular risk factors, adherence, and health disparities. Her research efforts have focused on some of the leading causes of mortality and disability among the elderly in the United States including stroke and related cognitive impairment. She has an excellent track record for grant funding, and serves as the principal investigator on two NIH R01 grants. She is considered an expert in her field as evidenced by the number of presentations she has given of her research at national and international meetings. Dr. Levine currently has over 50 peer reviewed publications, 17 of which she is first author. She has repeatedly published her work in high impact journals including *Journal of the American Medical Association* and *JAMA Internal Medicine* as well as leading specialty journals such as *Neurology* and *Stroke*.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Levine DA, Galecki AT, Langa KM, Unverzagt FW, Kabeto MU, Giordani B, Wadley VW: Trajectory of cognitive decline after incident stroke. *JAMA* 314:41-51, 2015.

Langa KM, Levine DA: Diagnosis and management of mild cognitive impairment. A clinical review. *JAMA* 312:2551-2561, 2014.

Levine DA, Morgenstern LB, Langa KM, Piette JD, Rogers MA, Karve SJ: Recent trends in cost-related medication nonadherence among stroke survivors in the United States. *Ann Neurol* 73:180-188, 2013.

Levine DA, Funkhouser EM, Houston TK, Gerald J, Johnson-Roe N, Allison JJ, Richman J, Kiefe CI: Improving care after myocardial infarction using a 2-year Internet-delivered intervention: the Department of Veterans' Affairs myocardial infarction-plus cluster-randomized trial. *Arch Intern Med* 171:1910-1917, 2011.

Levine DA, Neidecker MV, Kiefe CI, Karve S, Williams LS, Allison JJ: Racial/ethnic disparities in access to physician care and medications among US stroke survivors. *Neurology* 76:53-61, 2011.

Service: Dr. Levine is committed to providing excellent patient care at both the Ann Arbor VA Health System and at the university. Because of her commitment and areas of interest, she founded the University of Michigan General Medicine Poststroke Clinic which aims to improve the care of acute stroke patients by addressing transitional needs, controlling risk factors, and identifying barriers such as treatment adherence and cognitive impairment. Dr. Levine currently serves on multiple committees at the university and VA including the University Vascular Disease Quality Improvement Committee, the University Internal Medicine Intern Selection Committee, and co-chair of the VA Venous Thromboembolism Prophylaxis Sub-Group for the HOPE Initiative. Given her expertise, she has served as a member of the American Academy of Neurology's Initiative on Young Stroke and the Joint Commission's Speak Up About Stroke Campaign. She reviews abstracts yearly for the International Stroke Conference and was invited to be the co-chair of the Quality of Care/Patient Safety Abstract Committee of the 31st Annual Society of General Internal Medicine Annual Meeting.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: “My impression about the quality, quantity, focus and scholarly impact of Dr. Levine’s works is that she has found her niche and achieved true success as an academic clinician... She has truly been productive with regards to funding and publications for her current research platform...and her work is very meaningful for providers and patients... Dr. Levine has provided significant contributions to her field of cognition and stroke, particularly in the past 5 years... From my perspective, she is already a leader in this field compared to other researchers based on publications, and will continue to grow in this leadership as the population ages and the issues of cognition become more and more the focus of prevention.”

Reviewer B: “Dr. Levine has made very important and scholarly contributions to our understanding of stroke outcomes and care. Her contributions have important implications for clinical care and have established her as a widely recognized authority in this area. She clearly merits promotion to Associate Professor... While Dr. Levine focuses most of her efforts on research, it should be noted that she is highly regarded as a clinician and teacher and has developed a very novel clinical program... In sum, Dr. Levine is a highly successful scholar whose work has had important impacts on patient care. The University of Michigan is most fortunate to have her as a faculty member, and she clearly merits promotion to Associate Professor with Tenure.”

Reviewer C: “Dr. Levine’s impact in prominent journals is very clear... Dr. Levine has invested substantially in various study groups, serving on unglamorous but critically important adjudication committees and the like. These experiences have clearly landed her in excellent company as one of the premier people in her field at her level... Dr. Levine has clearly had exemplary service.”

Reviewer D: “Dr. Levine is recognized internationally as an expert in cardiovascular health services research, and I believe that her research and publications represent major contributions to the field... A review of her CV shows that she has made major service contributions to her discipline... Dr. Levine’s and research activities are consistent with important, original work in her field, with national and international impact.”

Reviewer E: “She is one of a handful of general internist researchers in the country who has made substantial contributions to the field of stroke... Dr. Levine displays excellence in teaching, research, service, and health care, all of which are key criteria for an appointment as Associate Professor. In summary, I have no doubt that Dr. Levine would be highly prized by virtually every medical school/academic center in the country, and appointed at any other...institution at the Associate Professor level. I have no reservations in enthusiastically supporting her promotion.”

Reviewer F: “Dr. Levine is certainly among the top tier of investigators in this area... Thus, her research is clearly continuing on a trajectory of higher impact and research funding and is focused on a topic of enormous health impact.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Levine has demonstrated a passionate commitment to academic medicine and has a promising future as a physician scientist. For these reasons, I strongly support Deborah A. Levine, M.D. for promotion to associate professor of internal medicine, with tenure, Department of Internal Medicine, and associate professor of neurology, without tenure, Department of Neurology, Medical School.



Marschall S. Runge, M.D., Ph.D.
Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs
Dean, Medical School

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