

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

Sameer D. Saini, 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
M.D.	2001	Brown University
B.A.	1995	Brown University

Professional Record:

2011-present	Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan
2008-2010	Clinical Lecturer, Department of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Saini is heavily involved in both clinical and research mentoring of Internal Medicine residents, GI fellows, and junior faculty. He also participates in the education of medical students through small group discussions with M1 students in the Patients and Populations course, and for M2 students he leads case-based discussion in the Medical Decision Making Module of the Clinical Foundations course, and provides lectures on pancreatitis during the GI Module. In the clinical setting, Dr. Saini teaches in the endoscopy unit, the GI clinic, and on the inpatient consult service at the VA. As the lead clinician for the GI Clinic at the VA, he led the reorganization of the clinic to improve the educational program for Internal Medicine residents and GI fellows, making this a core teaching site for the ambulatory care curriculum. Dr. Saini also restructured the curriculum for the GI Clinical Research Conference, and serves as the director of this conference. In 2016, he was the recipient of the GI Fellows Teaching Award. Dr. Saini also provides research mentoring for residents, fellows and junior faculty interested in clinical and health services research. He instituted a new program for the career development of GI junior faculty through mentoring and oversight in health services research, called the “GI Junior Faculty to K-Award Program (JF2K).” Additionally, he serves as the chair of the Junior Faculty Advisory Council at the Institute for Healthcare Policy and Innovation (IHPI), and a co-director of the Mentoring Core at the VA HSR&D Center for Clinical Management Research. Since 2014, Dr. Saini has served as an associate director of the NIH T32 GI Epidemiology Training Program, and will be appointed as the director of this program in the upcoming application for the T32 renewal.

Research: Dr. Saini is a health services researcher focused on developing strategies to deliver colorectal cancer (CRC) screening in the most appropriate way for each patient. This involves developing and implementing both a personalized approach to CRC screening and quality measures to improve the appropriateness of CRC screening. He has been funded by VA HSR&D grants since 2010 – first with a career development award, and currently with a highly competitive merit award. He is also a co-investigator on a number of grants. Dr. Saini’s work has resulted in over 40 per-reviewed

publications, with many in high impact journals. Key publications include articles in *BMJ* on inappropriate use of screening for colorectal cancer (nominated for the VA HSR&D best research paper award) and in *Gastroenterology* on personalizing colonoscopy screening for the elderly. Recognition of Dr. Saini's standing in the field is evidenced by his recent invitation to serve as a co-editor of the "Red Section" of the *American Journal of Gastroenterology*, and his many invited national presentations at meetings such as Digestive Diseases Week.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Saini SD [co-primary author], Waljee AK, Higgins PD. Cost utility of inflammation-targeted therapy for patients with ulcerative colitis. *Clin Gastroenterol Hepatol* Oct;10:1143-1151, 2012.

Saini SD, van Hees F, Vijan S: Smarter screening for cancer: possibilities and challenges of personalization. *JAMA* 312:2211-2212, 2014.

Saini SD, Vijan S, Schoenfeld P, Powell AA, Moser S, Kerr EA: Role of quality measurement in inappropriate use of screening for colorectal cancer: retrospective cohort study. *BMJ* Feb 26;348:g1247, 2014.

Van Hees F, Saini SD [co-primary author], Lansdorp-Vogelaar I, Vijan S, Meester RG, de Koning HJ, Zauber AG, van Ballegooijen M: Personalizing colonoscopy screening for elderly individuals by screening history, cancer risk, and comorbidity status could increase cost-effectiveness. *Gastroenterology* 149:1425-1437, 2015.

Saini SD, Powell AA, Dominitz JA, Fisher DA, Francis J, Kinsinger L, Pittman KS, Schoenfeld P, Moser SE, Vijan S, Kerr EA: Developing and testing an electronic measure of screening colonoscopy overuse in a large integrated healthcare system. *J Gen Intern Med* 31 Suppl 1:53-60, 2016.

Service: Dr. Saini provides clinical care at the VA Hospital, where he sees patients in the GI clinic, performs GI endoscopic procedures, and rounds on the GI consult service. He serves as the lead clinician for the VA GI Clinic, and is also a member of the Research and Development Committee for the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System, and a member of the Committee for Intellectual Activities for the VA Ann Arbor HSR&D Center for Clinical Management Research. At the University of Michigan, Dr. Saini is a member of the Cancer Center Protocol Review Committee. Nationally, he serves on the Research Committee of the American College of Gastroenterology, is a councilor for the Clinical Practice Section of the American Gastroenterological Association (AGA) Institute Council, and leads the Colorectal Cancer Screening Measures Workgroup for the AGA Quality Measures Committee.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "Dr. Saini's scholarship is focused on two critically important areas: colorectal cancer screening and quality of care. He has been awarded numerous research grants...Dr. Saini has also made important service contributions to gastroenterology... His national service includes Co-Editor of the American Journal of Gastroenterology 'Red Section,' member of the American College of Gastroenterology Research Committee, and Councilor of the American Gastroenterological Association's Clinical Practice Center."

Reviewer B: "Dr. Saini consistently publishes high quality, original and thoughtful work. His questions often address issues at the forefront of his fields of study. He has shown the initiative and

ability to chart new directions and to seek productive collaborations inside and outside his home institution... His research trajectory shows cohesion, with a nice progression in his publications and research funding. He has also addressed important health service research questions in gastroenterology beyond his area of primary focus.”

Reviewer C: “Dr. Saini is superbly well informed and analytic in his approach to clinical research....His work on personalized decision making in relation to colorectal cancer screening is leading the field and he has developed productive collaborations....It is no exaggeration to state that Sameer is an emerging national leader with a deep fund of knowledge and an established, productive research trajectory.”

Reviewer D: “He has mentored about a dozen trainees into successful careers, many of whom will go on to become future leaders of our profession... Dr. Saini has successfully demonstrated excellence in teaching, research and clinical service. In comparing Dr. Saini to his peers around the country, he is undoubtedly ahead of the curve by a magnitude of difference given his scholarly work, research productivity, educational and committee services.”

Reviewer E: “He has clearly established himself as a national leader in the realm of colorectal cancer screening and has been invited to the keynote speaker at several national forums...Of note, in 2015, he assumed the role [of] Councilor for the Clinical Practice Section of the American Gastroenterology Association. This las appointment is a highly respected and cherished appointment, which indicates the respect he has garnered nationally in the gastroenterology community.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Saini has made important contributions to the field of colorectal cancer screening, and is an outstanding clinician and educator. He also provides significant service to the University of Michigan, the Ann Arbor VA Healthcare System, and national organizations. Therefore, I enthusiastically recommend Sameer Saini, M.D. for promotion to associate professor of internal medicine, with tenure, Department of Internal Medicine, Medical School.



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

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