

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

Pratima Sharma, 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.B.B.S.	1992	University College of Medical Sciences, University of Delhi, Delhi, India

Professional Record:

2011-present	Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan
2008-2011	Lecturer, Department of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan
2004-2005	Assistant Professor, Emory University School of Medicine
2003-2004	Clinical Instructor, Emory University School of Medicine

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Sharma provides extensive clinical mentoring for medical students, Internal Medicine residents, GI fellows, and transplant hepatology fellows while rounding on the GI-Liver inpatient and consult service, performing procedures in the medical procedure unit, and seeing patients in the outpatient liver clinic and transplant clinic. She also provides didactic lectures for GI and transplant fellows as part of the core curriculum. Dr. Sharma has been integrally involved in curriculum development for the transplant hepatology fellowship, and is currently involved in the development of the curriculum for an ABIM approved pilot fellowship in GI/Transplant Hepatology for eligible third-year GI fellows, slated to start as early as 2017. She is a core member of the GI Clinical Research Conference curriculum development committee, and since 2014, has served as the chair of the Clinical Competency Committee for Transplant Hepatology. In addition to her clinical teaching, Dr. Sharma has been heavily involved in research and career mentoring of GI and Transplant fellows, and Internal Medicine residents. She is an associate director of the GI JF2K (Junior Faculty to K-award) committee, and reviews pilot proposals for hepatology-related projects. Nationally, Dr. Sharma has made educational contributions to the American Gastroenterological Association through the Women's Health in Gastroenterology and Hepatology Section teaching project, and the Digestive Disease Self Education Program (DDSEP), a continuing medical education (CME) activity with a comprehensive gastroenterology and hepatology syllabus. She also provides peer-education on the diagnosis and management of patients with liver and kidney dysfunction through her numerous invited talks at clinical symposia, national meetings, and CME courses.

Research: Dr. Sharma's research is focused on improving overall outcomes for solid organ transplant recipients. Her work utilizes large databases to study outcomes in transplant recipients that pertain to liver allocation, waiting list mortality, and post-transplant survival. She has particular expertise in kidney dysfunction before and after liver transplantation, and was involved in the development of a validated objective patient-specific risk assessment tool – the renal risk index (RRI) – that is used worldwide to predict outcomes in liver transplantation. Dr. Sharma is also involved in collaborative projects, with current work focusing on a biobank for liver transplant recipients to identify phenotypes related to disease recurrence, and an initiative for personalized patient self-management using electronic medical records.

Dr. Sharma has a track record of sustained funding, including as the principal investigator currently on a K08 award and a R03 grant, and a co-investigator on a U01 project. She has more than 50 peer-reviewed publications, three book chapters, and numerous abstracts and meeting presentations. National recognition in her field is evident in her invited service as a contributor for the “Selected Summary” section for *Gastroenterology* from 2012-2015, and on the editorial board for *Liver Transplantation*. She has also served as a grant reviewer for the Swiss National Foundation and the Austrian National Science Foundation, and frequently reviews abstracts for the American Transplant Congress.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Sharma P, Schaubel DE, Guidinger MK, Ojo A, Merion RM: Impact of MELD-based liver transplantation allocation policy on post-transplant end stage renal disease. *American Journal of Transplantation* 11:2372-2378, 2011.

Sharma P, Schaubel DE, Gong Q, Guidinger MK, Merion RM: End-stage liver disease candidates at the highest MELD scores have higher wait-list mortality than status-1A candidates. *Hepatology* 55:192-198, 2012.

Sharma P, Goodrich NP, Schaubel DE, Guidinger ME, Merion RM: Patient specific prediction of end stage renal disease risk. *JASN* 24:2045-2052, 2013.

Sharma P, Goodrich NP, Schaubel DE, Merion RM: Serum sodium and survival benefit of liver transplantation. *Liver Transplantation* 21:308-313, 2015.

Goodrich NP, Schaubel DE, Smith A, Merion RM, Sharma P: National assessment of hospitalization rates for incident end stage renal disease after liver transplantation. *Transplantation* 2016. In press.

Service: Dr. Sharma has clinical expertise in advanced liver disease and transplant hepatology, and is considered the go-to clinician for renal dysfunction related to liver disease and liver transplantation. In addition to her inpatient and outpatient clinic care at the University of Michigan, she began providing hepatology outreach services in Livonia in 2008, and this has expanded to several additional areas. Dr. Sharma is involved in the UM transplant program multidisciplinary quality initiatives, and serves on several institutional committees. In 2014, she formed the Renal Sparing Immunosuppression in Liver Transplants Task Force, and co-authored a practice paper on protecting kidneys after liver transplantation for the American Society of Transplantation that was published in the *American Journal of Transplantation*. Nationally, she has served on the American Society of Transplantation Surgery Research Committee and the American Gastroenterological Association Research Committee, and started a three-year term in 2016 on the American College of Gastroenterology Research Committee.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: “...I believe that Dr. Sharma has had a remarkably productive career thus far, and has made major contributions to the field of endstage liver disease and liver transplantation. Her observations and analyses have directly impacted national policy, and she is clearly a national thought leader.”

Reviewer B: “...Dr. Sharma has established herself as a premier investigator in patient-oriented research. In particular, her work has changed the manner in which livers are allocated on a national basis.”

Reviewer C: “...a careful reading of Dr. Sharma’s papers shows consistent attention to issues of allocation of donor livers, and prioritization of candidates on the transplant waiting and outcomes after liver transplantation. A second related theme in Dr. Sharma’s published work is the outcome of treatment of

kidney failure in patients with liver disease and the impact of kidney failure to allocation and outcome after liver transplantation. Taken together, this is an exceptional publication history and constitutes a remarkable and estimable body of work.”

Reviewer D: “She has become a highly regarded investigator in the field of liver diseases and her bibliography reflects her focus and impact in the management of patients with cirrhosis and following liver transplant. I am confident she will continue on her current trajectory and will be a major force in liver diseases for many years to come... She is regarded as one of the most promising midlevel hepatologist [sic] in North America.”

Reviewer E: “Her work has been innovative and has actually transformed clinical care. She developed the renal risk index, which is a critical assessment tool now to evaluate the long-term renal risks based on renal dysfunction prior to liver transplant... This work has resulted in her being asked to present her data at oral sessions during multiple national and international meetings—and her work is highly regarded. She has published in high quality journals in the transplantation field and her peers clearly consider her work to be of high quality... I believe that Dr. Sharma would not only qualify for tenure at my institution, but probably at most major academic medical centers in the United States.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Sharma is nationally recognized for her expertise in the area of liver transplantation, and has made extensive contributions in clinical care, education, and both institutional and national service. Therefore, I enthusiastically recommend Pratima Sharma, 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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