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

Joel H. Rubenstein, 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.Sc. 2005 School of Public Health, University of Michigan
M.D. 1998 Washington University
B.S. 1994 University of Michigan

Professional Record:
2015-present Associate Professor of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan
2008-2015 Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan
2004-2008 Clinical Lecturer of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:
Teaching: Dr. Rubenstein has an extensive investment in teaching residents in internal medicine and fellows in gastroenterology. He mentors fellows and junior faculty, successfully leading to publications and funding. The majority of his mentees have continued to pursue academic careers. He is a member of both the Gastroenterology Fellowship Program Clinical Competency Committee and the Gastroenterology Fellowship Program Research Committee. In 2017, Dr. Rubenstein was awarded the Career Mentor Award by graduating gastroenterology fellows. In 2018, he initiated an Advanced Esophageal Fellowship training program at the University of Michigan.

Research: Dr. Rubenstein led efforts to develop and validate tools for predicting the risk of esophageal cancer, and collaborated in evaluating strategies for decreasing the burden of esophageal cancer. He is the principal investigator of a Veterans Affairs (VA) merit award and a co-principal investigator of a National Institutes of Health (NIH) U54 grant, both focused on Barrett’s esophagus and esophageal adenocarcinoma. He is a co-investigator of a VA grant, and an NIH R01. Dr. Rubenstein has published more than 110 peer-reviewed articles in high impact journals, including the New England Journal of Medicine, JAMA and Gastroenterology, and his research publications have been cited over 4,400 times. He has been invited to present his research on 46 occasions regionally and nationally.

Recent and Significant Publications:


**Service:** Dr. Rubenstein’s international service includes his role as a grant reviewer for Cancer research for the United Kingdom, and as an editorial advisory board of *Digestive Diseases and Sciences.* He serves as a member of the American Gastroenterological Association’s (AGA) Clinical Guidelines Committee, and as the chair of the Clinical Practice Section of the AGA Institute Council. Dr. Rubenstein is an associate editor for the *American Journal of Gastroenterology* and has served as a special section editor for *Gastroenterology.* Institutionally, he is a member of the Data Safety and Monitoring Board. Dr. Rubenstein’s clinical activities include performing endoscopy at the University of Michigan and Veterans Affairs Health System where he also performs esophageal function testing interpretation and rounds on the GI consult service.

**External Reviewers:**

**Reviewer A:** “Dr. Rubenstein is highly respected in the fields of gastrointestinal oncology and epidemiology and health care outcomes for his keen insights, thought and innovative research and clinical expertise in gastroenterology. He has had a productive and significant research program in the areas of esophageal adenocarcinoma, esophageal disease and other gastrointestinal disease. His contributions to this field and leadership in gastrointestinal oncology have led to his international recognition as an authority in health outcomes, cost effectiveness, and epidemiology of gastrointestinal disease as recognized by his invitations to speak at national and international conferences and leadership roles in national cancer and gastroenterology associations.”

**Reviewer B:** “I recall seeing Dr. Rubenstein’s reviews of papers dealing with esophageal disease. These were outstanding reviews, highlighting his epidemiology acumen. These same talents have undoubtedly served him well in leadership roles such as Councillor for the Esophageal, Gastric & Duodenal Disorders section of AGA Institute Council and as associated editor for the American Journal of Gastroenterology, another high impact journal in our field.”
Reviewer C: “Through the years, Dr. Rubenstein has been well funded for clinical and bench research. He has developed a reputation both at Michigan as well as nationally as an excellent teacher and in addition has been recognized as a ‘Top Doc’ in your region...Joel is a delightful person, a pleasure to interact with, a great clinician, teacher and scientist, and he would certainly qualify for promotion to full professor with tenure in our institution were we to be his employer.”

Reviewer D: “…suffice it to say that in my opinion he has been incredibly successful in publishing outstanding work that directly impacts practice. Of course, he has substantively contributed to the field of Gastroenterology in ways beyond just publication...He is on the [sic] unarguably a thought leader (both nationally and internationally) in the important areas of Barrett’s esophagus, esophageal cancer and use (including potential overuse) of EGD.”

Reviewer E: “The many grants awarded to him by the National Institutes of Health, Department of Veterans Affairs, American College of Gastroenterology, and American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy attest to his skills as leader, his managerial aptitude, and his entrepreneurial talents in building scientific structures and developing new research areas. Dr. Rubenstein has served as mentor to several [junior] investigators, who have already developed a national reputation in their own right.”

Summary of Recommendations:
Dr. Rubenstein has made significant research contributions in the study of Barrett’s esophagus and esophageal adenocarcinoma. He is a well-established researcher, clinician and mentor, and will continue to make great contributions to the Department of Internal Medicine. I am pleased, therefore, to recommend Joel H. Rubenstein, M.D. for promotion to professor of internal medicine, with tenure, Department of Internal Medicine, Medical School.

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

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