

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

Maria Papaleontiou, 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 [also being promoted to research associate professor, Institute of Gerontology].

Academic Degrees

M.D. 2004 First Faculty of Medicine, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic
B.A. 1998 Macalester College, St. Paul, MN

Professional Record

2021 – present Research Assistant Professor, Institute of Gerontology, University of Michigan
2015 – present Assistant Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, Metabolism, Endocrinology, and Diabetes, University of Michigan
2013 – 2015 Clinical Lecturer, Department of Internal Medicine, Metabolism, Endocrinology, and Diabetes, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation

Teaching: Dr. Papaleontiou's teaching and mentoring efforts cut across her various roles as a clinician, researcher, and leader. She leads small group sessions for first- and second-year medical students, resident instruction in both inpatient and outpatient settings, and fellow instruction during inpatient endocrine consults. Learners include undergraduate students, graduate students, medical students, residents, clinical fellows, and faculty. Teaching evaluations are very good to excellent. She has also been very active in peer and patient education activities, board review instruction, grantsmanship courses, and workshops. In addition, she devotes substantial time to patient and provider education, developing unique patient-facing and provider-facing education materials. She has authored numerous provider education commentaries on a variety of thyroid topics between 2019 and 2021. Further, while on the editorial board of *Clinical Thyroidology for the Public* between 2013 – 2022, she authored 23 unique patient education materials. Nationally, she has lectured on thyroid topics to both specialists and primary care physicians at national meetings. Dr. Papaleontiou's teaching expertise was honored by the clinical fellows in her division with the Teacher of the Year award given in 2022.

Research: Dr. Papaleontiou is regarded as a national authority in thyroidology, her research has four foci: 1) reducing low value-care in older adults with thyroid disease; 2) the impact of age and comorbidity on thyroid cancer decision making; 3) undertreatment/overtreatment of benign thyroid disorders and thyroid cancer in older adults; and 4) skeletal and cardiovascular effects of iatrogenic thyrotoxicosis. She has an overarching goal to develop strategies to de-implement inappropriate and low-value care in the management of thyroid disease in the elderly. Her work was funded as principal investigator by a National Institutes of Health (NIH) K08 award until 2022

and is now funded by an NIH R01, funded through 2028. She has authored 28 peer-reviewed manuscripts in the leading journals in the field of metabolism, endocrinology, and diabetes such as the *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism* and *Thyroid*. She has given 25 extramural invited presentations, served as a panelist, and moderated several sessions at national and international scientific meetings including in Greece and Brazil. In recognition of her scientific contributions to the field of thyroidology, she has received several awards including the Young Physician-Scientist Award from the American Society of Clinical Investigation, the Women Advancing Thyroid Research Award from the American Thyroid Association, and the Rising Star in Endocrinology Award from the American Association of Clinical Endocrinology.

Recent Significant Publications:

- Evron JM, Hummel SL, Reyes-Gastelum D, Haymart MR, Banerjee M, Papaleontiou M, “Association of Thyroid Hormone Treatment Intensity with Cardiovascular Mortality Among US Veterans,” *JAMA - Netw Open*. 5(5): e2211863-e2211863, 05/2022. PM35552725
- Papaleontiou M, Levine DA, Reyes-Gastelum D, Hawley ST, Banerjee M, Haymart MR, “Thyroid hormone therapy and incident stroke,” *J Clin Endocrinol Metab*. 106(10): e3890e3900, 01/2021. PM34137866
- Papaleontiou M, Evron JM, Esfandiari NH, Reyes-Gastelum D, Ward KC, Hamilton AS, Worden F, Haymart MR, “Patient Report of Recurrent and Persistent Thyroid Cancer,” *Thyroid*. 30(9): 1297-1305, 09/2020. PM32183609
- Esfandiari NH, Reyes-Gastelum D, Hawley ST, Haymart MR, Papaleontiou M, “Patient Requests for Tests and Treatments Impact Physician Management of Hypothyroidism,” *Thyroid*. 29(11): 1536-1544, 11/2019. PM31436135
- Papaleontiou M, Hughes DT, Guo C, Banerjee M, Haymart MR, “Population-Based Assessment of Complications Following Surgery for Thyroid Cancer,” *J Clin Endocrinol Metab*. 102(7):2543-2551, 07/2017. PM28460061

Service: Dr. Papaleontiou has provided extensive service locally and nationally. Internationally, she has been an ad hoc grant reviewer for the World Cancer Research Fund International (United Kingdom) and The Netherlands Organisation for Health and Research Development. Nationally, she has served the American Association of Clinical Endocrinology as the vice chair for its thyroid disease state network and on its awards committee. She is an associate editor for *Endocrine Practice* and *Hormones – International Journal of Endocrinology and Metabolism*, and on the editorial board of *Thyroid*. She is an ad hoc reviewer for many journals in her field including the *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism*, the *Journal of Clinical Oncology*, and the *Journal of the Endocrine Society*. Dr. Papaleontiou has served as an ad hoc reviewer for the NIH, American Thyroid Association (ATA), and American Geriatrics Society. She currently serves as the chair of the ethics committee for the North American Society for Interventional Thyroidology, and recently completed service as the president of the ATA’s Women in Thyroidology, and as clinical science chair for the ATA’s annual meeting program committee. Institutionally, she serves as a member of the clinical competency committee for the divisional fellowship program and previously served as a member of the Senate Assembly and on the University’s Institutional Review Board-Medicine. Dr. Papaleontiou expressed great pride in her geriatric endocrinology clinic being honored by the Office of Patient Experience as one of the top two sites for “care received during visit” in the first quarter of 2023.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: “Maria’s choice of research topic is to be commended. Hypothyroidism has been all but forgotten during the last 50 years. Funding in this area is complicated by the pervasive notion that all important questions have been resolved...She took on the gigantic task of understanding how thyroid hormone replacement therapy can result in serious long-term consequences if not properly monitored. Her paper in JAMA network is a landmark that will be cited hundreds of times in the near- and long-term future...used by task forces writing up guidelines, by board examinations, and by program directors to train fellows. Above all, it will help patients, and save countless lives.”

Reviewer B: “Dr. Papaleontiou has had consistent and impactful publications in the field of thyroid research, especially focusing on thyroid cancer treatment and treatment of hypothyroidism...Her work has been published in high impact specialty journals...Her patient-centered research has clarified the role of the patient in determining appropriate therapy for hypothyroidism and thyroid cancer. Her recent studies on thyroid hormone therapy and stroke and cardiovascular mortality have had a significant impact on more informed thyroid hormone treatment decisions.”

Reviewer C: “...her track record of research funding is impressive, particularly in this difficult funding climate. She has received both intramural and extramural funding since 2012 in a continuous manner. She received a prestigious mentored K08 award from the National Institutes of Health in 2016 to study inappropriate use of thyroid hormone therapy in older men. She then received an R24 grant to gather data on thyroid hormone deprescribing. Most recently, she applied for and received an R01 grant to study ‘Optimizing Care for older Adults through Thyroid Hormone Deprescribing.’ This progression from a mentored award to becoming an independent principal investigator with her own R01 is indeed a reflection of Dr. Papaleontiou’s scientific and scholarly prowess.”

Reviewer D: “Dr. Papaleontiou has held a number of significant national leadership roles. She has served on multiple committees for the ATA...She has also been active in leadership at ACE, where she has also served on multiple committees and is currently the Vice-Chair of the Thyroid Disease State Network...She is in demand as a reviewer for multiple journals, has served on the Editorial Boards for several journals and is currently an Associate Editor at Endocrine Practice and at Hormones...She has served as an ad hoc member of study sections for the NIH and for other international and national funding agencies...Institutionally, among other roles, she has been a member of the University of Michigan Senate Assembly.”

Reviewer E: “Dr. Papaleontiou teaches undergraduates, medical students, residents, fellows and faculty members. In addition to her didactic lectures on thyroid diseases, she excels in mentoring trainees in research projects. Her mentees have published peer reviewed papers and presented abstracts under her mentorship at national meetings. She has provided several endocrinology educational talks as a visiting professor and provided national talks at annual meetings, including the American Society of Clinical Oncology and Endocrine Society in 2023. She was named teacher of the year in endocrinology in 2022 in the Division of Metabolism, Endocrinology and Diabetes at University of Michigan. Her level of teaching and mentorship is outstanding and has reached national recognition.”

Reviewer F: “Further review of Dr. Papaleontiou’s dossier reveals that she is an avid teacher and mentor to students, residents, and fellows. She is a sought-after lecturer. She has both served on and chaired an impressive number of significant national committees. Maria’s reputation as a scholar is evidenced by her service on multiple editorial boards. She is a strong and collegial presence at national meetings, who represents the University of Michigan well.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Papaleontiou is a prolific and outstanding clinician scientist. She is a talented scholar, physician, and educator recognized nationally and internationally for her expertise in the field of thyroidology. I am pleased to recommend Maria Papaleontiou, 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

May 2024