The Academy of Master Clinicians [http://www.med.upenn.edu/fapd/AcademyofMasterClinicians.shtml](http://www.med.upenn.edu/fapd/AcademyofMasterClinicians.shtml) was launched in 2013 to recognize those Penn Medicine clinicians who exemplify the highest standards of clinical excellence, humanism and professionalism. Election to The Academy of Master Clinicians is the highest clinical honor to be bestowed on a Penn physician. Master Clinicians have been developing and implementing innovative programs focusing on career mentoring for medical students, professionalism, promoting and enhancing a culture of clinical excellence at Penn Medicine, promoting wellness and reducing burnout, and exploring barriers to providing exceptional patient care. We look forward to continuing to work with the Master Clinicians to advance these critical initiatives.

On July 12, 2016, a call for nominations for new members of The Academy of Master Clinicians was sent. Forty-seven excellent candidates were submitted for consideration. The Selection Committee selected 13 outstanding individuals from numerous departments and entities across Penn Medicine. The Master Clinicians will support the missions of Penn Medicine in the areas of focus mentioned above and in accordance with general expectations described in the program as follows:

"A Master Clinician will be distinguished by a superior depth of knowledge in their field and a willingness to pursue new knowledge. A Master Clinician is recognized for exceptional clinical skills, excellent judgment, integrity, and exemplary interpersonal and communication skills with patients and colleagues at all levels, and as a committed and supportive team player. A Master Clinician treats all patients equally, acts as a patient advocate, and demonstrates compassion and empathy toward patients. A Master Clinician is an outstanding educator. A Master Clinician serves as a role model and mentor who exemplifies the highest levels of professionalism and positively influences the collegial culture of Penn Medicine." Professionalism, a core value of Penn Medicine, was a particularly significant criterion for selection.

We thank the members of the Selection Committee for their dedication and hard work in this important initiative.

We are proud and delighted to announce the new members of The Academy of Master Clinicians and look forward to continuing to expand this group with additional outstanding individuals in the coming years.

Aba Barden-Maja, MD, MS  
Jean B. Belasco, MD  
John H. Keogh, MD  
Stephen J. Kovach, III, MD  
Christopher J. Miller, MD  
David A. Piccoli, MD  
Raymond Price, MD  
Mindi M. Roeser, MD  
Stephen J. Schuster, MD  
Steven Sondheimer, MD  
Christine Stabler, MD, MBA  
Eric T. Stoopler, DMD  
Neha Vapiwala, MD  

Department:  
Medicine  
Pediatrics  
Anesthesiology and Critical Care  
Surgery  
Dermatology  
Pediatrics  
Neurology  
Medicine  
Medicine  
Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Family Medicine & Community Health  
Oral Medicine  
Radiation Oncology