




Leveraging clinical
responsibilities to your
advantage in research :
Nuts & Bolts

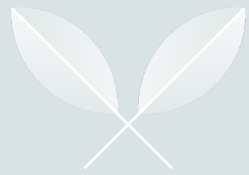
Jennifer C. Lai, MD, MBA
Transplant Hepatologist / Beeson Scholar
Associate Professor of Medicine

Endowed Professor of Liver Health & Transplantation
Director, Advancing Research in Clinical Hepatology
(UCSF ARCH)

Jennifer C. Lai, MD, MBA

- Associate Professor of Medicine @ UCSF
- Practicing Hepatologist, both general and transplant
- Geriatrician at 
- Foundation award, GEMSSTAR, Beeson Scholar, NIA R01/R21
- Focused on understanding frailty in older adults (and now all adults) with cirrhosis (especially those awaiting liver transplantation)

*“Study what you
have a lot of”*

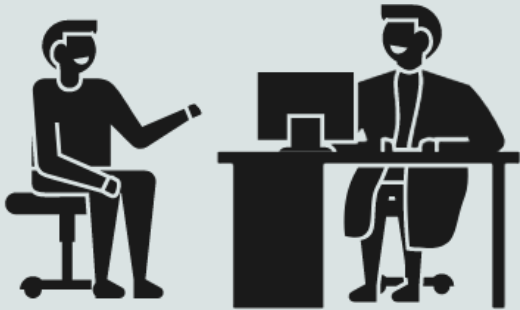


Dr. Wesley Ely



“Study what you have a lot of” : Two lessons

- Draw inspiration for your studies from your clinical practice
- Structure your clinical practice so that you see more of what you are interested in studying



➤ Design a clinic focused on your patient population

➤ Adapt your professional on-line profile to attract the patients you are most interested in studying



Build a cohort at the broadest level of disease/patient characteristics that you need to study

Research question: What is the role of frailty on outcomes in older adults with cirrhosis awaiting / undergoing liver transplantation (LT)?

Frailty

Younger adults
w/o cirrhosis
awaiting LT

Younger adults
with cirrhosis
awaiting LT

Older adults with
cirrhosis awaiting
liver transplantation

Older adults
without cirrhosis
awaiting LT

All patients awaiting LT at UCSF

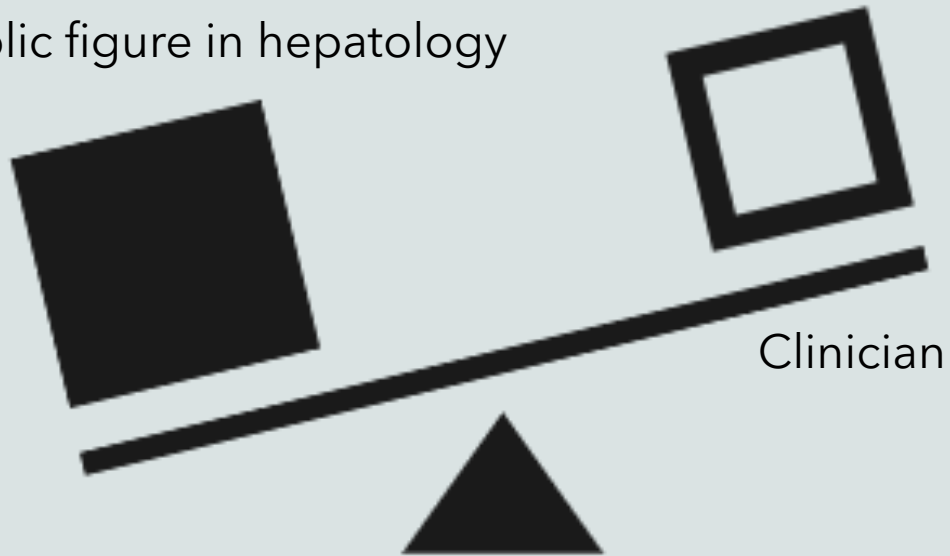
Make sure that any clinical-administrative responsibilities are aligned with your research

- Developing clinical protocols
- Clinical program development
- Administrative leadership opportunities

Honor your clinical responsibilities...

But strive for the right balance of time

Funded investigator
Mentor
Speaker
Public figure in hepatology



- Where do you add value for your division, department, institution?

Leverage clinical care to attract grateful patient philanthropy

- Patient care represents an opportunity to seek philanthropy.
- Patient philanthropy gives patients an opportunity to recognize and express their gratitude for exceptional care that they receive.



Grateful patient philanthropy

“I think patients, even sophisticated people, are often very naïve about how the academic enterprise is funded They don’t really understand that what we’ve got is a hunting license, and we need to go out and earn our salaries. In the current environment, the competition is so intense that to do something adventuresome is difficult for an established funding agency without some proof of concept, which philanthropic funding permits you to generate.”

“I think that the money discomfort is ours, not theirs. Donors are going to give money The only question is, who are they going to give it to?”



Thank you!

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