This year we had an outstanding abstract competition! For the first time we instituted a peer-reviewed process and opened the competition up to medical students allowed to participate as first authors. There were 296 abstracts submitted, and a great group of attendings reviewed the submissions, with at least two reviewers pre-judging each abstract. On the day of the competition, we had nearly 90 volunteer judges from across the state to help.

In the clinical vignettes, Deborah Akanya from St. Vincent’s Hospital won first place for her poster titled, “Sexually Transmitted Renal Failure: A Case of Membranous Glomerulopathy in the Setting of Secondary Syphilis.” The second place winner was Sabina Zawadzka from UConn Primary Care with, “Cerebrospinal Fluid Viral Escape Syndrome.” In third place was Shang-Lin Chung from Yale School of Medicine with, “A Rare Case of Rat Bite Fever and Delayed Diagnosis Due to Cognitive Bias.”

Dr. Akanya with her poster
Dr. Zawadzka presents in the second round.

Shang-Lin Chung presenting in the second round.
For original research, the first place winner was Cynthia Tsay from Yale Traditional with, “Oral Vancomycin as an Effective Monotherapy for the Treatment of Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis.” In second place was Omair Sheikh from Greenwich Hospital with “Making a C.Diff-erence: The Impact of Educating Greenwich Hospital Residents and Staff on the IDSA C. Difficile Guidelines.” The third place award went to Yihan Yang of Yale with “Characteristics of Effective Chief Resident-led Morning Reports in Internal Medicine Residency Programs.”

![Dr. Tsay presenting her winning poster in the final round.](image)

Congratulations to all of the presenters on your outstanding work and dedication to the practice of internal medicine! We hope to see many submissions to the national competition so Drs. Akanya and Tsay will have some company in Philadelphia at the National ACP meeting in April 2019!