

In Memoriam
David A. Goldstein, MD



It is with deep sadness that we report the passing of David Aaron Goldstein, MD, Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, Vice Chair for Clinical Affairs, and former Chief of the Division of Geriatric, Hospital, Palliative and General Internal Medicine (GHPGIM). Dr. Goldstein will be remembered for his long and productive career at the Keck School of Medicine, his positive impact in many areas of USC academic medicine, and his passionate advocacy of quality service and ethics in medicine.

A native New Yorker, Dr. Goldstein received his MD from State University of New York in Brooklyn in 1972, and his internship and residency in internal medicine at Kings County Hospital, also in Brooklyn. In 1975, he moved to Los Angeles for a fellowship in nephrology at LAC+USC Medical Center, and thereafter began his lifetime career at USC as Assistant Professor of Medicine in 1977. He was promoted to Associate Professor of Medicine in 1982.

Dr. Goldstein wore many administrative hats during his tenure at USC and LAC+USC Medical Center. He impacted clinical activities of the department and school in his roles as Vice Chair of Clinical Affairs since 1995, Director of Primary Care for Keck Medicine of USC since 2014, and Chair and/or member of the Clinical Practice Committee of USC Care Medical Group from 2008 to 2012. During his 26-year tenure as Chief, Dr. Goldstein oversaw the Division of Internal Medicine's expansion to eventually include geriatrics, hospital medicine and palliative care. He was a major force behind the implementation of the hospital medicine and palliative care programs at Keck Medical Center and LAC+USC, both of which have grown to become vitally important to the provision of quality care for many inpatients at the hospitals.

As Co-Director of the Pacific Center for Health Policy and Ethics since 1990, Dr. Goldstein assisted in the coordination of curricular, scholarly and consultative endeavors in bioethical and moral dilemmas ranging from the bedside to societal levels. He also served as Coordinator of the HEAL (Humanities, Economics and Law) curriculum for the Keck School of Medicine since 1985 and as Co-Chair of the Bioethics Committee of Keck Medical Center since 2015. In addition, he served as a member on numerous ethics, quality and review committees at Keck Medical Center and LAC+USC.

Dr. Goldstein was an expert in medical education, having served the Keck School of Medicine as Director of Undergraduate Medical Education from 1982-1986, Chair of the Medical Education and Curriculum Committee from 1982 to 1989, and Associate Dean for Curriculum from 1984 to 1989.

With support from Norbert Gehr, a grateful patient, Dr. Goldstein recently established the USC Gehr Family Center for Implementation Science. The Center's mission is in part to foster research into a wide variety of healthcare innovations, and it has offered student innovator awards for mentored health care system projects and seed grant awards for faculty or staff to pilot health care delivery quality improvement projects. Dr. Goldstein also held the Flores Chair in Health Services Research, established to support treatment, education and health services research in his division.

In addition to Dr. Goldstein's demanding schedule of clinical and administrative duties, he was an avid reader and writer of fiction and published two novels, [The Physician's Tale](#) and [The Lonely Tiger](#). He also had an avocation for weightlifting and was once a finalist in tryouts for the US Senior Olympics.

Dr. Goldstein passed away peacefully at his home on May 22, 2017. He is survived by his beloved wife Brooke, his son Dylan, and his daughter Zoe. Plans for a memorial service are pending and will be announced when finalized.