Dear Larner College of Medicine Community,

We’re excited to share the slate of topics and dates for the Fall 2018 Community Medical School. Since 1998, this program, jointly organized by the UVM Larner College of Medicine and the UVM Medical Center, has been providing members of the UVM and local community with accessible and important education on a wide variety of timely, fascinating and engaging health care topics.

The Fall 2018 series begins on Tuesday, September 4, with a discussion led by UVM Assistant Professor of Pediatrics & Vaccine Testing Center Investigator Benjamin Lee, M.D., about the various types and behaviors of the influenza virus. The series, which is free and open to the public, takes place in Carpenter Auditorium from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. and includes a Q&A session.

September 4 – All about Flu: The Virus & the Vaccine:
Benjamin Lee, M.D., Assistant Professor of Pediatrics & Vaccine Testing Center Investigator

During the 2016-17 flu season in Vermont, 47.3 percent of residents received flu vaccines to prevent the annual dreaded virus that wreaks havoc in the upper respiratory system. Examine the various types and behavior of influenza virus, how it spreads, and what determines a pandemic versus regular seasonal influenza. In addition, aims and challenges of the annual flu vaccine, as well as new vaccines on the horizon, will be discussed.

October 2 – How Cannabis Affects the Body & the Brain
Peter Jackson, M.D., Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Karen Lounsbury, Ph.D., Professor of Pharmacology

Since July 1, 2018, recreational marijuana has been legal in Vermont, but what do we know about the positive and negative effect of cannabis in the body and the brain? Gain an understanding of the biologically active chemical components of the cannabis plant – CBD and THC – and how they are processed in the body, as well as the impact of cannabis on the developing brain in youth vs. adult brain. Discussion will also include the medical value of cannabis chemicals and risks of addiction.

November 13 – Pumps, Sensors & Meds, Oh My! Treatments for Type 1 & Type 2 Diabetes
Matthew Gilbert, D.O., M.P.H., Associate Professor of Medicine

Well over 30 million Americans currently have a diabetes diagnosis, including more than one million children and adults with type 1 diabetes, with the majority being adults with type 2 diabetes. With a reported $327 billion in total costs associated with this disease, better prevention and treatment approaches are critically important. Learn about the difference between these two diseases, the wide array of treatment advances, and the new options and technologies available to patients.

For more information about the Fall 2018 schedule, click here, or, to view past lectures and materials, visit the Community Medical School archives.

With best regards,
The Community Medical School Advisory Committee