

## THE TEAM, THE TEAM, THE TEAM!

While the phrase is often associated with the iconic University of Michigan football coach Bo Schembechler, increasingly, we understand that the practice of medicine is best done by teams reaching past traditional boundaries — whether professional or geographic. Across the University of Michigan Medical School, we have teams of experts that respond to the rapidly changing face of medicine and help define the future practice of medicine globally.

U-M students, researchers and clinicians are working around the world every day, standing closely with international colleagues. We are in China, Ghana, India, Israel and Brazil, among many other nations. In this issue, we tell the story of our collaborations with medical educators and the government in Ethiopia. “With Ethiopia” describes the successful teamwork that is improving everything from OB/GYN care to medical education. This work would be impossible without our Ethiopian partners.

“What We Host” illustrates U-M’s burgeoning work on the human microbiome. Our bodies are the scaffold for the microbiome. A deeper understanding of the relationships between our microbiome and our health holds the potential of providing insight into health and disease at a level not even imagined just a few years ago. To just begin understanding something as complex and critical as the microbiome and its influence throughout our bodies requires the contributions of teams of scientists with diverse expertise — oceanography, microbiology and engineering, to mention a few.

We also reach across the state and bring together clinical experts to improve patient care. “Joined Together” takes you into U-M’s new Comprehensive Musculoskeletal Center, a collaborative effort of tightly knit interdisciplinary teams of U-M physicians and other medical professionals that is redefining care for chronic pain patients in Ann Arbor and beyond.

Just as Michigan athletics teams work for a common goal, we are deploying teams to address a wide range of scientific, educational and clinical challenges. More than ever, we recognize teams are a must for the good of patients, students and researchers. They enhance clinical care, provide richer learning opportunities and facilitate the search for understanding. This is our future together: the team, the team, the team!

Sincerely,



JAMES O. WOOLLISCROFT, M.D. (Residency 1980)  
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# Medicine at Michigan

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