

## **MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE ANNOUNCES THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE FELLOWSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM**

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Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) in Atlanta announces the establishment of a new Cardiovascular Disease Fellowship Training Program. Cardiovascular disease specialists treat patients who have serious acute and chronic cardiovascular conditions, including coronary heart disease, congestive heart failure, arrhythmia, “heart attacks,” and congenital heart disease. With the national shortage of minority cardiologists and an increasingly aging population suffering with heart disease, Morehouse School of Medicine is creating its own pipeline of tomorrow’s exceptional physicians specializing in cardiac patient care and research.

Chief of Cardiology, Dr. Anekwe Onwuanyi, states that this is an important milestone for MSM in its contribution to the national effort to increase the number of minority cardiovascular specialists in the USA. This critical step, integral in the effort to close the gap in cardiovascular disease outcomes, is consistent with Morehouse School of Medicine’s mission: “Leading the creation and advancement of health equity.”

Dr. Rajesh Sachdeva has been selected as the inaugural program director. He is a board-certified interventional cardiologist and fellow of the Society for Coronary Angiography and Interventions. He completed his cardiology and interventional cardiology fellowships at Bridgeport Hospital in Connecticut. Dr. Sachdeva is proud to serve as the foundational program director and believes that “the presence of a cardiology fellowship training program strengthens our internal medicine program by attracting the best and the brightest minds to the medical school as students, residents, and faculty. The program will enhance our research enterprise across multiple fields as well.”

Recruitment for the first two cardiology fellows is underway. Successful candidates will begin the three-year program at Grady Memorial Hospital and the Veteran Affairs Medical Center starting July 1, 2017. By summer 2019, the program will have up to six cardiology fellows trained annually at the Morehouse School of Medicine.